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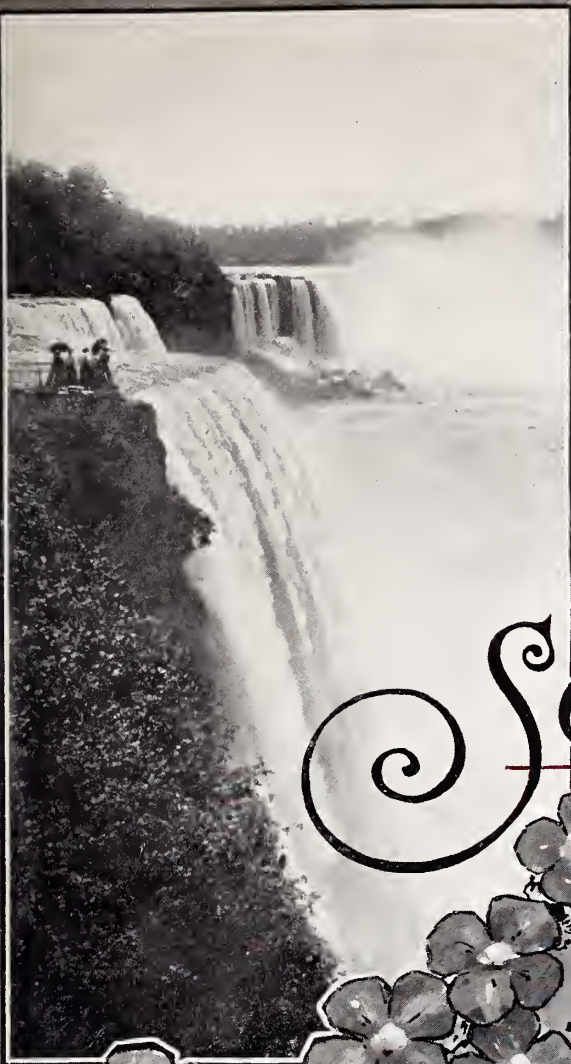
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Souvenir of
NIAGARA COUNTY
NEW YORK


Commemorative of
The 25th ANNIVERSARY
of
The PIONEER ASSOCIATION
OF NIAGARA COUNTY.

1902



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Foreword.

 HIS book is issued primarily to commemorate the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Pioneer Association. President Peter A. Porter announced at the meeting of 1901 the intention of the management to mark the date, August 20, 1902, by publishing the record of the Pioneers of the county, with the history of Old Niagara from the days of the forefathers down to the present. The idea met with favor and was cordially acquiesced in by the throng who were present. Accordingly, the work of compilation was intrusted to the publishers of the Lockport Journal, who were authorized to issue the work subject to certain specifications made in a formal contract, among which was that a committee of censorship from the directors of the Pioneer Association should have full power to examine all manuscripts and to amend, accept, or reject, any portion of them. This was a very proper stipulation, for the book was to be issued under the auspices of the Association. The idea sprang from the management of that body. The committee on censorship performed its work with the full co-operation of the publishers of the Journal, which was freely given, and the completed Souvenir History of Niagara County is before the reader and the Pioneer Association. The ability and facilities of the Journal for publishing a work of this kind must be judged by the fruits of the labors which are here presented.

The compilation of the work has been a task of no small magnitude. In fact, it has been little short of stupendous, considering the length of time at the disposal of the publishers, to collect, write, edit and put into cold type and on to the press, the array of historical facts presented pertaining to every nook and corner of the county. But the work was one of genuine pleasure. It was rendered so in no small degree by the co-operation of the descendants of the pioneers, who gave their aid with no unstinted hand, and contributed, of their time and information, on any and every occasion, with a cheerfulness that is worthy of all praise. We desire to express our heartiest acknowledgements to those who contributed the various sketches which are printed in this volume, with their names attached. Some of these men and women are octogenarians, and it is by no means as easy for them to wield the pen as it once was. But they have enriched the history of the county by recalling their recollections, with a high degree of public spirit, being unwilling that knowledge that ought to be given to posterity should pass away when their course of life was run. Some of the contributors are among the younger men and women, who are likewise entitled to high consideration for the investigation they have made of the history of their various localities and which they are fitted to write, because of their ancestry and association, and ability to properly transcribe their thoughts to paper.

There are many beautiful views presented that serve to

illustrate the text. Besides this, there are portraits of some two hundred and fifty residents of the county, pioneers, sons of pioneers, and others, which will be regarded with interest. Allusion is made to their lives and services among the biographies appended to the book or in the sketches of the towns or cities where they live. It should also be stated that to these men and women is due the credit of enabling the publishers to issue the work at a price that brings it within the reach of the masses and which could never have been afforded but for their public spirit and liberality. The purpose of the compilation of this work was not primarily financial, but to furnish a popular, readable history of all portions of the county that would be a tribute to the memory of the Pioneers and mark in a fitting way the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Association that has been engaged in the work of keeping alive the memories of the past.

These portraits, it will be observed, are generally grouped together in the histories of the towns or cities where those whose features are depicted have resided. In a few instances this has not been possible because of the necessities of typographical arrangement or because of delay in securing the photos and having the half-tones made in time to place them where they most properly belong. But in these cases the identification and locality are well marked so that the record is complete. It will be noted that the book contains the portraits of all who have served as President of the Pioneer Association,

Our acknowledgement is due to the indefatigable efforts of the President of the Pioneer Association, Peter A. Porter, because of the energy and industry with which he has responded to every call that has been made upon him for assistance in carrying this work to a successful completion. We take the responsibility of passing this sentence through without submitting it to the inspection of this most vigilant of the little group of censors. He wrote the history of the county, which is the leading article in the book, and also the sketch of the "Pioneers of Niagara County," which comprises a list of most valuable records that are presented in suitable form.

Mr. Crowley draws upon the stores of almost half a century of public life to pen the "Political History of Niagara County." His portrait is the only one that has been taken of him in nearly a quarter of a century. It was no easy matter to lure Mr. Crowley to the photographers and we record this triumph with some degree of complacency.

Judge Millar is peculiarly fitted to write the "History of the Bench and Bar" in which Niagara County has had so many worthy representatives, and his sketch will be perused with no little interest by those who know the judge who has presided over the Niagara County Court with such ability.

Mr. Atwater's paper on the "Schools of the County" comes from a veteran schoolmaster who has taught for twenty years in our county schools and was for twelve

years superintendent of the schools of Lockport, and will be appreciated by all who value our educational institutions.

The "Reminiscences of Lewiston," by Rev. Joshua Cooke, who gave Mr. Atwater his appointment to the State Normal School, and who has been also the life long friend of Judge Millar, will be read with keen interest, for they are in narrative form and very entertaining. Mr. Cooke was requested to write the history of the Town of Lewiston, with considerable reference to chronology and sequence of events. But his active brain is not easily chained and he wandered off into a strain of delightful reminiscence and produced a sketch of peculiar interest, hence his production has a conspicuous place, and the details of writing the history of the town were attended to by the editor, with the assistance of George C. Hayward, of Lockport, a former resident of Lewiston, and of Mr. Cooke. Mr. Cooke is now busy completing a romance connected with the early history of the county.

"Niagara County in the Wars," by Mr. LeVan, will be a valued record to all those who took part in the "irresistible" conflict," and to their families. Too much honor cannot be given to those who sacrificed life, or health and business prospects by responding to their country's call, and in Mr. LeVan's article, as well as in others, in fact permeating the book, the record of these patriots will be found preserved.

One clergyman of each denomination has contributed the history of his sect throughout the county. If it had been possible the publishers would have been glad to have extended an invitation to the pastor of every church to contribute the history of his parish, but that plan would have involved delays and hence one well informed clergyman of each denomination was intrusted with the task of writing the history of all the churches in his denomination.

The history of the Home for the Friendless, one of our most beneficent institutions, has been written by Mrs. E. Ashley Smith, who, having been for many years its secretary, is excellently equipped for her task.

Joshua Wilber has contributed a chronology of Lockport that he has been collecting for many years, much of which would have passed out of knowledge of man but for his staying hand. Mr. Wilbur is one of Lockport's oldest citizens, is yet in the enjoyment of good health and is still engaged upon the compilations of his records. His chronology is supplemented by some anecdotes of "ye olden time" by James B. Hill, which make entertaining reading.

Orrin E. Dunlap, the former editor of the Niagara Falls Gazette, does full and ample justice to the history of Niagara Falls and the majesty of its possibilities for the future. His article is enriched by records and incidents that he has been collecting for years and which he has now prepared for the press for the first time.

George W. Millener writes the history of North Tonawanda with the piquancy of the writer of fiction and the faithfulness of the historian and sets forth the past and present of his community in a way that leaves no doubt in the reader's mind of Mr. Millener's belief that North Tonawanda will have a great future.

The history of the towns has been well covered. The records of the Towns of Lockport and Niagara have been included in those of the cities of Lockport and Niagara Falls. Elisha B. Swift, who was one of the first to propose the compilation of such a work as this by local talent and published in Niagara County, where the work would be done with a tinge of local pride, has contributed a wealth of information relative to the older settlers of the Town of Cambria and their descendants. Esek Aldrich was the choice of every one as the historian of Hartland and he draws upon his memory of the past in entertaining form. Mrs. Jacob Haight and Mr. Swain give a good account of the good people of Somerset. Mrs. Ruby F. Cooper, the oldest resident of Newfane, sends some reminiscences that she had written before this book had been projected, to hand down to her descendants. Captain Mesler and Miss May H. Mesler, of Royalton; "Squire" Kinne, of Pendleton; George H. Loveland, of Wheatfield, and Miss Adelaide L. Harris, of Porter, have dealt, in an excellent way, with the story of their respective towns. But we would hardly do full justice to this public acknowledgement not to make special mention of the complete, orderly and entertaining sketch of the Town of Wilson, written by William H. Holmes. None of the historians of the towns will begrudge Mr. Holmes a word of merited praise. His history of Wilson is a masterpiece of its kind and we believe will long be regarded as the authoritative record of the settlement and development of that beautiful section of our county.

The editor and the writers of the various sketches herein contained have drawn at times upon some of the works that have been published in previous years, especially the old standard, the "History of the Holland Purchase," written by Orsamus Turner. In many instances credit has been given, in others this has not been deemed essential except in this general way. Published history is public property and the historian of a quarter of a century hence has our full permission to draw upon these pages wherever it is necessary to complete his records. The publishers also desire to record their indebtedness to the press of the county for its effective cooperation in behalf of the successful publication of this book.

An edition of five thousand of this volume will now go out to the citizens of Niagara County, from Somerset to the Tonawandas and from Fort Niagara to Royalton. Many will be sent by thoughtful friends to former citizens who are now living at a distance and who treasure the memories of a childhood and youth spent in this garden spot of earth. Let all who read these pages endeavor to emulate the example of the sturdy pioneers, to whom difficulty was but an incentive, and who regarded obstacles as only meant to surmount. And when the history of the present generation shall be written, let it be said that the men and women of 1902 were worthy descendants of the strong men and noble women who bore such a historic part in the subduing of the wilderness and in the making possible the beautiful county of Niagara today.

Niagara County in History.

BY PETER A. PORTER.

THERE is probably no civil division in the State of New York, certainly none west of the Hudson River, whose history more correctly typifies the mutations that have taken place, during the past three centuries, in the possession and control of her soil, than does that of the acreage embraced within the limits of the present Niagara County.

In the aboriginal relics so frequently turned up from its soil by the plow; in the even yet tracable remains of its ancient Indian fortifications or villages; and on the printed page of history, its story carries us back, prior to the date when a white man, whose name is all unknown, first set foot upon its sod, and gazed in awe upon the now world-known cataract, from which it takes its name.

In the oral records of the Red Men, handed down by

national, waged hereabouts, on whose outcomes hinged the destinies of North America.

To the economist, it represents the greatest natural store-house of power on the globe.

To the electrician, it recalls the greatest development of that force in one locality on this continent.

To the ecclesiastic, it brings up memories of some of the earliest, but eventually unsuccessful, missions of the Roman Catholic Church among the Indians.

To the manufacturer, it speaks of one of the greatest and the most rapidly enlarging of the industrial centres of America.

To the engineer, whether civil, electrical or hydraulic, it recalls many notable achievements in the various branches of that science.



NIAGARA FALLS—FROM WHICH THE COUNTY DERIVES ITS NAME.

them through many generations, until appearing upon the printed page they came also within the knowledge of the white man; in the annals of France, of Great Britain and of the United States, the name Niagara is not only an important, but is an integral part.

It is a privilege to live in such a famous region; it is a noble heritage to be a descendant of its pioneer settlers.

WHAT NIAGARA SUGGESTS.

The mere mention of the word Niagara, the world over, instinctively suggests various trains of thought to persons engaged in divers occupations.

To the lover of nature, it recalls one of the scenic wonders of earth: "for the day when one's eyes first rest upon the cataract, marks an epoch in the life of any man."

To the traveler, it represents the one spot above all others in America that he wants to visit.

To the geologist, it unfolds a vista of thousands, yes, perhaps millions, of by-gone years.

To the student of anthropology, it suggests the question of the ancestry of the Red race, that, ages before a white man reached its shores, roamed this continent, and knew of the existence of the waterfall.

To the historian, it tells of wars, inter-tribal and inter-

No other single spot on earth is so universally known as Niagara; no other location recalls more and more varied recollections.

IN EARLIEST DAYS.

At the commencement of the seventeenth century, when we find the first printed reference to this locality, the Neuter Nation of Indians lived, and owned all the territory, hereabout.

Fifty years later they were annihilated by the Senecas, who, thereby, in 1651 became the owners of the lands now embraced in our county. Another fifty years and the French, who in the meanwhile had forcibly occupied this section had been ejected, and the Senecas again controlled their own. Still another fifty years, and the French, through their friendly and absolute control over the Senecas, were in complete military possession hereabouts. When yet another fifty years had elapsed, France had disappeared from this continent. Britain, her conqueror, was then, even as now, secure in the possession of the northern portion of North America; but after an ownership of over a century and a half of its central eastern section, and of a score of years of the Niagara Frontier, had been compelled to recognize a new Nation, formed of her own descendents, the United States

of America, whose flag then floated over the lands east of the Niagara River. And in the twice fifty years that next passed, even until now, the Stars and Stripes have never been dispossessed hereabouts by any other emblem, save for a brief period during the War of 1812.

HISTORICAL EVENTS.

Tradition, which is Indian history, tells us that the Aborigines made annual pilgrimages, often from great distances, to the Cataract, in order that, at His abode, they might offer up their sacrifices to the Great Spirit of I-a-ga-ra, and these traditional sacrifices may date back many hundreds of years; the principal one being that of the fairest maiden of the tribe who voluntarily went to her death over the Falls in a white canoe that was decked with fruits and flowers.

Within the boundaries of Niagara County, in 1626, was said the first mass in Western New York.

On our soil, in 1651, began the onslaught by the Senecas upon the Neuters, which ended in the annihilation of the latter.

On our territory, where the Niagara River enters Lake Ontario, was the one site in the western country, watched and coveted by both France and Britain for over four score years, 1670 to 1759, as the location for a fort, which being on the Niagara route to the far off Indian countries, would thus dominate this shortest and all important waterway to and from the then almost unknown West; and here in 1679 was built the first white man's fort in the then occidental country.

Within our confines, in 1679, was the first located Mission in the State of New York, where a priest of the Catholic Church ministered to white men.

On our western border, also in 1679, was built the first vessel, other than an Indian canoe, that ever floated on the Upper Lakes.

Along our western line and wholly on our soil, was the most famous "portage" or carrying place in America, the key to the western country from all the east.

On our soil was the only permanent foothold that France ever secured within the boundaries of the State of New York, outside of the northern wilderness.

Within our borders, in 1719, was erected the first "Trading House" in the west; conducted by a white man, ostensibly for the accommodation of the savages, but of course with tremendous profit to himself, and with far reaching effect on the great struggle between France and Britain for the control of the western territory and of the fur trade of North America.

On our shore, at the mouth of the Niagara River, in 1725, was commenced a permanent fortification, which (increased, strengthened and twice rebuilt) was, during the eighteenth century, next to Quebec, the most important fort in all America, and which stands today as the best preserved ancient fortress in the United States.

Within our borders Father Piquet, in 1751, delivered the first temperance exhortation ever heard in this section.

On our sod, through the capture of Fort Niagara by the British, in 1759, the prestige of France on this continent was forever destroyed; and the control of all Western North America passed into the hands of the Anglo-Saxon race.

On our extreme western border, in 1764, was built an inclined plane, the earliest adaption of the crude principle of the modern railroad in America.

Our western frontier, from Lake Ontario to Gill Creek has seen the erection of more permanent forts than probably any territory of equal length on this continent. In a distance of fifteen miles, between 1678 and 1813, no less than twenty-five such structures were erected by France, Great Britain and the United States, though only one of them exists today.

Within our borders, about 1775, was built the first permanent Episcopal Church in Western New York, outside of Fort Niagara. And it was erected not by a peace-loving white man, but by a notoriously bloodthirsty Indian warrior; and not as an act of contrition, but at the commencement of the most inhuman period of his life.

On our soil stood Fort Niagara, which was a plague spot to the Colonists, being the headquarters of what is known as the "Border Warfare of the Revolution." There were planned and from there started out all those marauding and devastating expeditions, which carried death and destruction to so many colonial settlements within a radius of some 200 miles. That was also the most important of those five forts, all concededly on United States territory, that were retained by Great Britain during the thirteen years of the "Hold Over Period," 1783-1796.

Through our section, at the close of that war, went the most of that vast tide of emigration, formed of those British subjects who were too loyal to their King to take the oath of allegiance to the New Republic of the West; from our

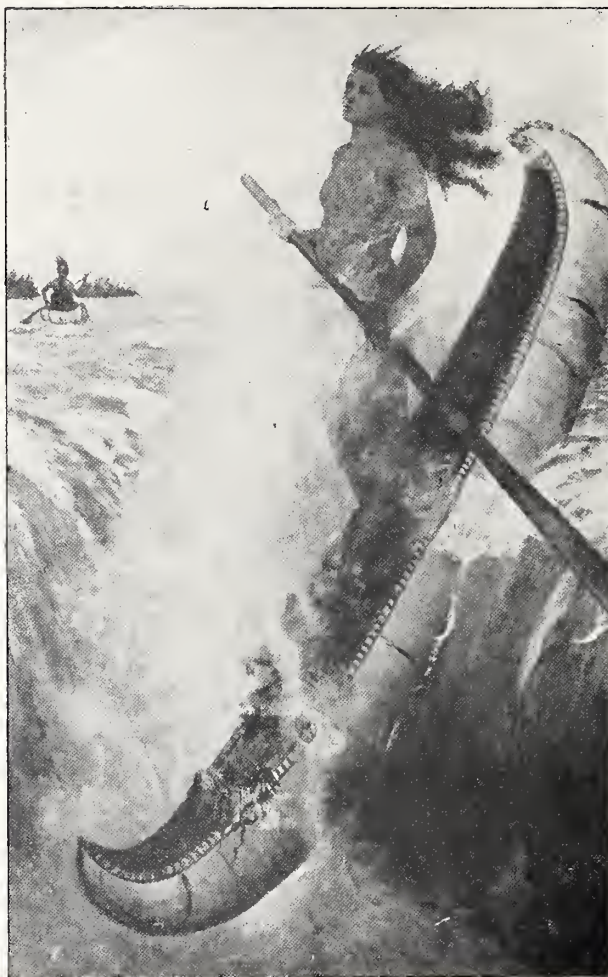
shores thousands of those "United Empire Loyalists" entered the Province of Ontario, then known as "Upper Canada," and settled there to the gain of that province and to their own, as well as their descendant's satisfaction.

In our county, in 1826, occurred the confinement and disappearance of William Morgan, from which occurrences sprang the "Anti-Masonic" agitation, that entered so largely into the politics of the Nation.

Within our limits, a part of the Falls themselves as it were, lies Goat Island, the fabled burial ground of Indian chiefs, which was aptly described by an early European traveller, as "the most interesting spot in all America."

On our borders occurred the early hostilities of the war of 1812, and the futile invasion of Canada during that summer; and no other section of our country felt the devastating effects of that struggle more than did the Niagara Frontier.

On our shore in 1837 occurred the forcible capture and destruction of the steamer "Caroline," which high-handed



THE MAIDEN'S SACRIFICE.

action, on the part of Great Britain, so nearly involved the United States in a third war with the mother country.

Within our borders, in 1885, in order that the surroundings of the greatest natural wonder on earth might be forever preserved, and made free to all mankind for all time, the Empire State exercised its power in establishing the New York State Reservation at Niagara.

And on our territory, in later years, brains and capital have united in constructing hydraulic works, mainly devoted to the generation of electric power, in amounts unequalled on this continent; and by furnishing this power to many sections, within, as well as beyond, our county, have aided, and are aiding, in further developing a section already rich in commerce, manufactures, and agriculture.

Can any other county in the whole Empire State show a more diversified, a more notable, or a more honorable record on the page of history?

THE NEUTER NATION,

We have no knowledge of when the Neuters came into existence as a separate tribe. It was certainly as early as 1600, for in 1615 Champlain speaks of them as well estab-

ecas, who thereby became the owners of the Neuter's lands.

FIRST WHITE VISITORS.

The first recorded visit of a white man to the present Niagara County, was in 1626, when Father Joseph de la Roche Dallion, in his mission to the Neuters, crossed from the western to the eastern bank of the Lower Niagara, and during his visit, probably on the site of the village of Lewiston, said the first mass ever heard in this western country. Still it is by no means impossible, that before that date, French traders or "Coureurs de bois," had been on the Niagara.

The next well authenticated visit of white men was in 1640, when Fathers Brebouef and Chaumonot, on another mission to the Neuters, were in this territory; though they then recorded that French traders had been here before them.

LASALLE AND HENNEPIN.

But the autumn of 1669 witnessed the advent of a man whose name will forever be associated with this region, the man who erected the first white man's fort in the West, Robert, Cavalier de La Salle. In company with the priests,



OLD FORT NIAGARA.

lished. Their lands extended from the Detroit to the Niagara River, and easterly from that river to the Genesee. They were so called because living between the Iroquois on the east, and the Hurons on the west, they were at peace with both; and in the villages and wigwams of the Neuters even the warriors of these two bitterly hostile tribes met in peace.

Of the four Neuter villages that lay east of the Niagara River, two were within the present limits of Niagara County. Onguiahrra, a populous town, with a palisaded fortification, occupied the site of the village of Lewiston. Another, unknown by name, stood on the mountain ridge, about a mile west of the City of Lockport.

On the same ridge, about three and a half miles east of the Niagara River, on the present Tuscarora Reservation, stood a small fort or outpost, known as Kienuka, whose outlines are yet faintly discernable. About eight miles east of this outpost, also on the ridge, was a mound and an ossuary, or burial pit; and on Tonawanda Island was another mound; both of which may have been connected with ancient village sites.

The Neuter nation was annihilated in 1651 by the Sen-

Casson and Gallinee, and several attendants, he passed the mouth of the Niagara River, on his westward journey. In a few days he changed his plans, left the missionaries, returned eastward, stopped at the mouth of the river, and on the site of Fort Niagara built the first white man's house ever erected hereabouts. During his stay, of probably a few weeks, he and his small party carefully examined the shores of the river, no doubt for its entire length. After his departure his cabin stood for nearly six years, when the Senecas burnt it.

But La Salle intended, and was destined, to return to this locality; for he saw in it a good center for trade in furs; he projected the erection of a fort at the mouth of the river, and he made several efforts to have the French Government construct it.

Failing in this, he went to France, and secured from the Government private rights to trade in the Far West, and also the right, in connection therewith, to build forts wherever he deemed it necessary; all at his own expense.

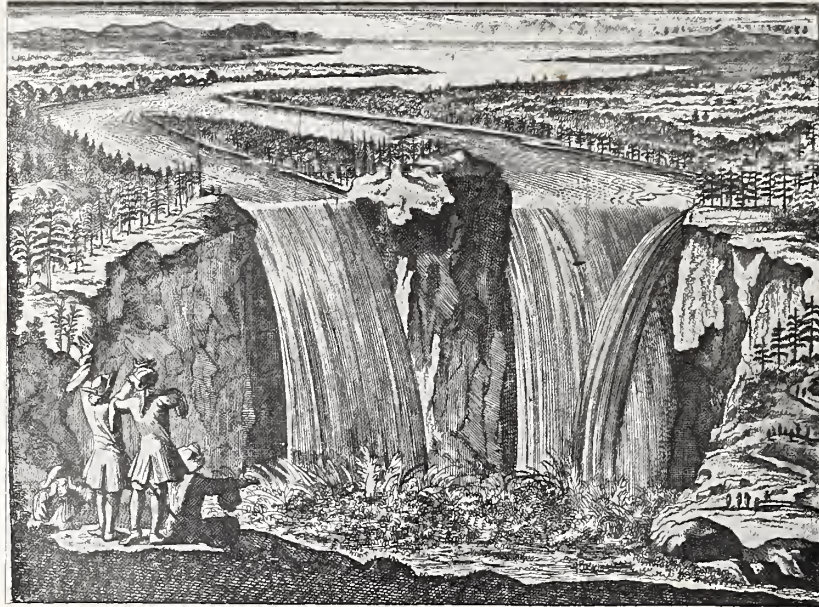
There was already a fort at Frontenac (Kingston), and the next one in the westward chain he planned to build at

the mouth of the Niagara River. So, in 1678, he sent out his advance party for this purpose, and followed it himself a month later.

On December the 6th of that year the vessel, bearing this advance party, entered the Niagara River, "into which never any such ship as ours entered before," as Father Hennepin, who was on it, records. "Te Deum Laudamus" sang the Frenchmen; and the savages on the shore gazed in awe, and listened in wonder. A few days later the vessel was towed up stream as far as Lewiston, and on the site of that village, the crew, led by La Motte and Hennepin—for the

sought trade with the white men; many of them voyaging as far east as Quebec, some going by the Ottawa, and some by the Niagara route.

The fact that on the Niagara route a great fall interrupted the navigation, and that it was necessary to carry their canoes around it, was known to the Indians along the Atlantic coast as early as 1603, for in that year Champlain heard of it, in that region, and noted it in his work, entitled "Des Sauvages." It was this portage around them, and not their scenic grandeur, that had impressed itself on the minds of the savages and made them thus early transmit the knowl-



FIRST KNOWN VIEW OF NIAGARA (HENNEPINS), 1697.

latter was a priest militant—both in the service of the church and in the trade with the savages—built a "cabin surrounded with palisades," which they called "an habitation," but which was in reality a fort; the first white man's fortification in this territory.

But there were other plans in view, and on the arrival of La Salle, soon afterwards, a site for a ship yard was selected on the "Little River," near the present village of La Salle, and there he laid the keel of the first vessel, other than an Indian canoe, that ever floated on the upper lakes. This vessel was named the "Griffon," was of sixty tons burden, and was the pioneer craft of the enormous fleet that today carries the commerce of a nation on four of our great inland seas. She was built within, and started out on her maiden, and only voyage, from the confines of the Niagara County of today.

At La Salle Father Hennepin erected a small chapel of bark, in which, during the construction of the Griffon, he regularly said mass, intoned the service of the Catholic Church and preached the Gospel to a mixed congregation of Frenchmen and savages. The earlier missionaries, as well as Hennepin, had previously carried a portable altar, together with the holy vessels, and the sacred vestments strapped to their backs on their journeyings. This was the first structure, though a temporary one, ever erected for divine service within the limits of our county.

At that time, and probably for many years previously, there was an Indian trail, or foot path, between the site of Lewiston, which was the head of navigation for the Indian canoes on Lake Ontario, and the smooth waters of the river, some half a mile above the Falls, which was the foot of navigation on the upper river.

For the Indians of those days were great travellers, and

edge of the existence of Niagara Falls to the far away tribes of their brethren.

The first description of Niagara Falls was published by Father Hennepin, and in a subsequent edition of his work he gave the first picture of them as reproduced herewith.

While La Salle always insisted on being accompanied on all his expeditions by one or more priests, it was to the



THE GREAT CROSS.

"arquebuss" in the hands of the soldier, rather than to the "Sword of the Spirit" in the hands of the priest, that he looked for success in his dealings with the savages.

With him began the building of modern forts in Niagara County. In January, 1679, he traced out Fort Conti, on

the site of Fort Niagara, and though it was speedily completed, it stood but a few months, being destroyed by fire the following August, through the carelessness of the garrison.

FRENCH CONTROL.

In 1687 the Marquis de De Nonville came here with an army, and on the site of Fort Conti he built a fort with four bastions, which he named after himself. He garrisoned and provisioned it and then returned to Quebec. The Senecas at once besieged it, maintaining the siege all winter, and by spring disease had reduced the garrison from 100 to twelve men. Though regarrisoned, the Senecas, backed by British influence, insisted on its destruction, and in the fall of 1688 the French were compelled to tear down its ramparts and abandon it, though they left intact the buildings and also the great cross, eighteen feet high, that stood in the center of the enclosure. France now saw that her hope of a fort in this territory lay through the friendship, not through the conquest, of the Senecas, and used every means to conciliate them. Britain also wanted and worked for the Senecas' good-will, but France proved to be the better conciliator.

upper story overhanging and pierced with loop-holes for the use of fire-arms; musket-proof, and surrounded with palisades. It was styled "Magazin Royal," but the numerous attendants were French soldiers, and over it floated the flag bearing the lillies of France.

In 1725, so well had Joncaire played his part in cementing the friendship of the Senecas to the French interest, France secured the Indians' consent to the erection of a stone house, in place of Joncaire's wooden "Magazin Royal," as it was then known. The engineer, probably under orders, built it, not at Lewiston, but at the mouth of the river. Tradition says that it was commenced by strategy; that the French, having gathered the necessary materials, invited the Indians to accompany them on a big hunt, and the invitation was accepted. The hunt occupied three days, the rendezvous being near the present site of the City of Lockport; and when the party returned to the mouth of the river, the walls of the stone house were up one story, and the French soldiers had thus a fortification within which they could defend themselves.

This building, the first Fort Niagara, was speedily completed; and after unsuccessful attempts on the part of Brit-



THE CASTLE AT FORT NIAGARA, COMMENCED 1725.

It was through the influence of an employee in the French service, Chabert Joncaire, a Frenchman by birth, but a Seneca by adoption, that she was temporarily to triumph over her rival.

He was the real representative of France in this territory for many a year, and has gone down in history as "the man who spoke with all the good sense of a Frenchman and with all the eloquence of an Iroquois." The Senecas wished him to dwell among them and had given him permission to locate his cabin wherever he chose, agreeing to maintain a village of their people near him.

In 1719 France utilized this permission, by having him locate, where Lewiston now stands, at the foot of the portage around the Falls. Britain bitterly resented this success on the part of her rival, but her influence availed her naught, nor could she even secure consent for the erection of a similar house in this locality.

Joncaire's cabin was known as a "trading house," the first of its kind among the Indians in their own country, but in reality it was intended to be a fort, and such it soon became. Within two years he had enlarged it so that it was a building forty feet long by thirty wide, built of logs, its

aim to have it demolished, about 1730, a regular fort, with four bastions, was built around it. The foundation of this stone house, now known as "The Castle" of Fort Niagara, is the oldest masonry in our county or along this frontier.

France held the perpetual friendship of the Senecas, largely by employing their braves in carrying goods over the portage or trail that ran between the site of Lewiston and the smooth water of the river, above the Falls. It is stated that at one period, 1721, 200 Senecas were thus employed; their loads averaging 100 pounds, and their pay twenty pence per pack. As the business increased in volume, the upper end of the portage became an important spot, and at this place about 1745 the French built a stone fort or block house, and also a store house. The site of these buildings is in the present City of Niagara Falls, just above the inlet of the hydraulic canal, and is still known as "the Frenchmen's landing." As the western trade increased, in place of the Indian bark canoes the French employed wooden bateaux, and these were gradually increased in size, until their navigation of the swift current from this point became both difficult and dangerous. In 1751 the French moved the upper end of the portage some half a

mile up stream, and there built a good-sized fort, consisting of three block houses, protected by palisades, known as Fort de Portage, or Fort Little Niagara; and extended the road from its former terminus, along the river shore, to it.

The old stone chimney, that even until now stands isolated near the river's bank at this point, was not within the fortification, but was attached to the barracks that stood a little way from the fort itself, and was built at the same time. In the same year they built on the top of Lewiston Mountain a large store house, which, being for the protection of goods in transit, was defensible and in reality a fort. At the foot of that same mountain they also, at the same time, built a similar, defended store house, and later added two others.

FORT NIAGARA CAPTURED.

France now ruled this entire territory, but Britain continuously planned for its capture, and in 1755 an expedition was sent against this fort, but failed to reach its destination.

forces, but who, on the death of his superior, General Prideaux, succeeded to the supreme command, and won the glory of being the captor of Fort Niagara. So far as dealing with the Indians of all tribes was concerned, he was the most important white man that ever lived. There was also George Clinton, later Governor of the State of New York. And there was Charles Lee, afterwards a Major General of the Continental Army, and second in command to Washington, dismissed by Congress for insubordination and proved by posthumous papers to have been a traitor to the cause he professed to serve. There was Joseph Brant, later the great Chief of the Mohawks. And there, too, was John Butler, even then a famous Indian leader.

During the siege, the French forces with their Indian allies from the west arrived at the burnt fort Little Niagara, and hurried to the greater fort along the well known portage, a portion of which is still called the Portage Road. The



THE OLD STONE CHIMNEY.

In 1756 the cannon captured by the French at Braddock's defeat arrived at and were mounted on the ramparts of Fort Niagara. George Washington, then a young man, had been in Braddock's army at its repulse. Had that army not been defeated it would have proceeded to Fort Niagara, and the future President of the United States would have been among the captors of that Fort. That near, and that near only, did George Washington come to being identified, by his presence, with the history of Niagara County.

In 1757, in anticipation of the coming struggle with Britain, France entirely rebuilt Fort Niagara, increasing its strength and enlarging its enclosed area many fold. The huge earthworks on the land side, as well as the outer earthworks or Ravelin, now in ruins, was built at this time.

When in 1759 a British army appeared before it and laid siege to it, its fortifications were on the same lines as now; it had accommodations for 1,000 men, and was defended by a garrison of about 500.

When the British started the siege of Fort Niagara, word was sent to all the French posts in the west, calling loudly for immediate help, in order to save the most important French post on the lakes. Fort Little Niagara was evacuated and burnt, its garrison being transferred to Fort Niagara. In the British besieging army were several men destined at a later period to play prominent parts in history. Among those who then trod our County's soil were Sir William Johnson, at first in command of the Indian

British forces met them in battle on the site of the village of Youngstown, and routed them; this being the first recorded battle between opposing forces of white men within the limits of our County. The French surrendered Fort Niagara the day after the battle, and their flag disappeared forever from our region.

Thus this long coveted stronghold came under the rule of the British; its capture being materially assisted by the Colonial troops, many of whom, a few years later, were destined to bear arms against the very country for which they had here fought.

Within the limits of the present Niagara County, France had built, between 1679 and 1759, eleven different forts, all along the Niagara River; and now her power was forever to disappear from our region.

Once in possession the British proceeded to fortify this section anew. They repaired and strengthened Fort Niagara, and in 1760, to replace Fort Little Niagara, they built a stronger fort, to which they gave the name of Fort Schlosser. Later, in 1764, they built a new fort at the foot of Lewiston Heights. Away from the bank of the Niagara River, the entire area of our County was still an uninhabited region, covered with a dense forest.

DEVIL'S HOLE MASSACRE.

In 1762 better transportation was needed between Fort Niagara and Fort Schlosser, and the British made a

contract with John Stedman for the construction of a wagon road, to replace the old French road, which was in reality only the widened Indian trail of earlier days, between Fort Schlosser and the fort at the foot of the Mountain. By August, 1763, he had completed his work, and the first train of wagons, drawn by oxen, went with a load to Fort Schlosser. The following day as it returned, still guarded by soldiers, as it reached a point, known as the "Devil's Hole," several hundred Senecas suddenly sprang from ambush, killed and scalped the escort, tumbled the wagons over the precipice, and drove off the oxen. But two persons escaped. John Stedman, mounted on a fleet horse, cut loose the bridle from the hand of the Indian who grasped it, dashed his spurs into the horse's flanks, and miraculously escaping the shower of bullets reached Fort Schlosser in safety. A drummer boy, Matthews by name, jumped over the cliff, and, the drum strap catching in the branches of a tall tree below, enabled him to conceal himself, and later to escape. The British soldiers, at the fort below the Mountain, on hearing the shots, hurried to the scene. This was what the Senecas expected, and they ambushed this relief-

provided they would surrender to the British Crown a strip of territory on both banks of our river, from Lake Ontario to just above Fort Schlosser. What he really wanted was the Niagara County shore, for that comprehended the whole length of the Portage. The Senecas of course agreed. On the eastern bank, the territory so to be ceded, was to lie between the river and a line drawn from a point some four miles east of Fort Niagara, on the shore of Lake Ontario to the mouth of Gill Creek.

The year 1764 was a noted one in the history of this section. It was in April of that year that Sir William agreed on this settlement with the Senecas, which was to be ratified at a great treaty, to be held at Fort Niagara the following August, and to which he invited representatives of almost all the tribes of the central and western country to be present. Sir William knew that through a British army that would be present at the treaty, he could enforce the Senecas' promised grant of land; so prior to the date set for the treaty he ordered the Niagara Portage to be thoroughly fortified. Eleven block houses, strongly built, each capable of accommodating about a dozen men, and each one forti-



THE OLD LEWISTON INCLINE.

ing force, only eight men out of two whole companies escaping. When the garrison of Fort Niagara reached the scene, the savages, with the scalps and booty, were miles away in the forest.

This awful massacre was planned and carried out by Senecas, who had always been the firm friends of the French, and who were now specially embittered against the British, because by their employment of ox teams for the business of the portage, they had deprived the Senecas of their former means of livelihood. So, instigated no doubt by French influence, they lent a willing ear to the advances of Pontiac for his great uprising of all the western tribes against British rule. This massacre was the result, and thus does the history of Pontiac's conspiracy enter into that of Niagara County. It had further effect, for Britain was now compelled to further fortify this section, which had become to her of transcendent importance.

By here had to pass all the traffic, both military and commercial, to the western country; and by here had to come back the furs, gathered throughout that region; it was the trade of half a continent.

The Senecas appealed to Sir William Johnson for forgiveness for the "Devil's Hole Massacre." He agreed,

fied with a cannon, were built along the Portage between the top of Lewiston Mountain and Fort Schlosser, a distance of some six miles, about 1,000 yards apart. When these had been completed the Niagara Portage was the best protected highway in all America. The first block house stood right on the crest of the Mountain, so as to protect and control an inclined plane built in 1764 and used in the raising and lowering of goods between that point and the water's edge below. This was the first railroad ever built in America.

FIRST RAILROAD IN AMERICA.

It ran from a wharf at the water's edge, in a straight line nearly perpendicular, to the top of the cliff above. The rails were formed of the trunks of trees laid end to end, and resting in some places on the projecting rock, but mainly on rough, strong piers of stone, the spaces beneath the rails, and between the piers, being left open. The tops of the rails were hewn flat and along the whole length of each was cut a deep groove. There were two pair of these rails, and on each pair slid a flat-bottomed car or sled, to whose under surface, and extending the whole length of the car, two wooden tongues were fastened. These fitted into the grooves in the rails and prevented the car's leaving the

track. At the top of each pair of rails was a capstan, and about each of these were several twists of an enormously strong rope, one end of which was fastened to either car, its length being so arranged that when one car was at the top of the incline the other car was at the bottom. By loading the descending car with a weight equivalent to that in the upgoing one it did not require a great amount of force to operate this unique railroad. Its motive power was furnished mainly by the Senecas, who were glad of the employment. Thus the first railroad in America lay wholly within the limits of our County, and its first employees were the savage owners of the soil, who literally drank up their wages, for each one of them would toil all day at the capstan for a pint of rum and a plug of tobacco, luxuries greatly craved, but otherwise unobtainable by them.

Meanwhile the great Treaty assembled, and every tribe but the Senecas were represented. They had repented of their bargain, but Sir William intended to exercise that land option. He sent them word that if they did not at once appear and execute the deed, the British army which he had with him would be sent to annihilate them.

erected a log building for Divine service, in which, occasionally a clergyman from Fort Niagara, but oftener Brant himself, read the service of the Church of England. This was the first permanent religious structure, outside of Fort Niagara, erected in our County. A church bell, sent from England to a Mohawk congregation, was brought along by this band in its westward migration and hung in the crotch of a tree along side the church and summoned the faithful to service. It is a fearful commentary on Brant's religious convictions, that during the Revolution, while he was maintaining this church edifice and personally conducting services therein, he was one of the main leaders in the atrocious "Border Warfare." He continuously planned the inhuman expeditions against innocent people, participating in them, and leading his bloodthirsty warriors on these forages of murder and devastation.

At the close of the Revolution Brant led his Mohawk band from Lewiston to their present location on the Grand River in Canada.

The War of the Revolution never reached this region in actual conflict, but Fort Niagara was a plague spot to



BRITISH BLOCK HOUSE AT FORT NIAGARA, BUILT 1770.

They came. Then he asked them to enlarge the promised grant so as to include all the land along the river from lake to lake and four miles back on each side. They could not refuse. So in our County they ceded to the Crown all the land on the river, extending back therefrom for four miles, from Lake Ontario to Tonawanda Creek. They also presented to Sir William personally all the islands in the river, so he was the first white owner of the Goat Island group, and of the other islands that are included within our County's limits. That was the first, and in its effect probably the most important, land deal ever consummated hereabout.

In the British army, then on its way to the west, that lay encamped at Fort Niagara during this treaty, was Israel Putnam, later known as "Old Put" of the Revolution.

DURING THE REVOLUTION.

At the commencement of the Revolution Guy Johnson exerted his influence to induce the Mohawks, who dwelt in Central New York and adhered to the British interests, to remove westward. The most of them, under Brant's leadership, then settled for a time on the Ridge Road east of Lewiston. Here is a spring, still known as "Brant's Spring," and here Brant, who professed to be a churchman,

the Colonists. There Brant and the two Butlers made their military headquarters. There were planned and from there started out, usually led by Brant or the Butlers, those marauding and murdering expeditions that during that war so often carried death and destruction to peaceful settlements in Western New York and Northern Pennsylvania; among them those that executed the massacres of Wyoming and Cherry Valley; and it was to Fort Niagara that all these expeditions returned with their prisoners, scalps and spoils. General Washington in 1779 sent General Sullivan to capture this fort. He devastated the lands of the Senecas in the Genesee Valley, but stopped short of his objective point, whither the defeated and famished Indians, some 5,000 in number, had fled, and which he could have captured with lasting benefits to the cause of the Colonists. That was the greatest gathering of Indians ever seen in this County. Those of the Tuscaroras and Oneidas in Central New York, who had been friends of the British, fled to Fort Niagara, where they spent the winter of 1779.

TUSCARORA RESERVATION.

In the spring of 1780 the Oneidas returned to Central New York, but the Tuscaroras settled upon a square mile of

land on the mountain ridge that was given to them by the Senecas.

The settlement here of the Tuscaroras antedates the ownership in our County of the Holland Land Company (1798), by eighteen years, and it was twenty-two years after their advent before settlement by white men commenced. The Tuscaroras thus became the first bona fide settlers in this region.

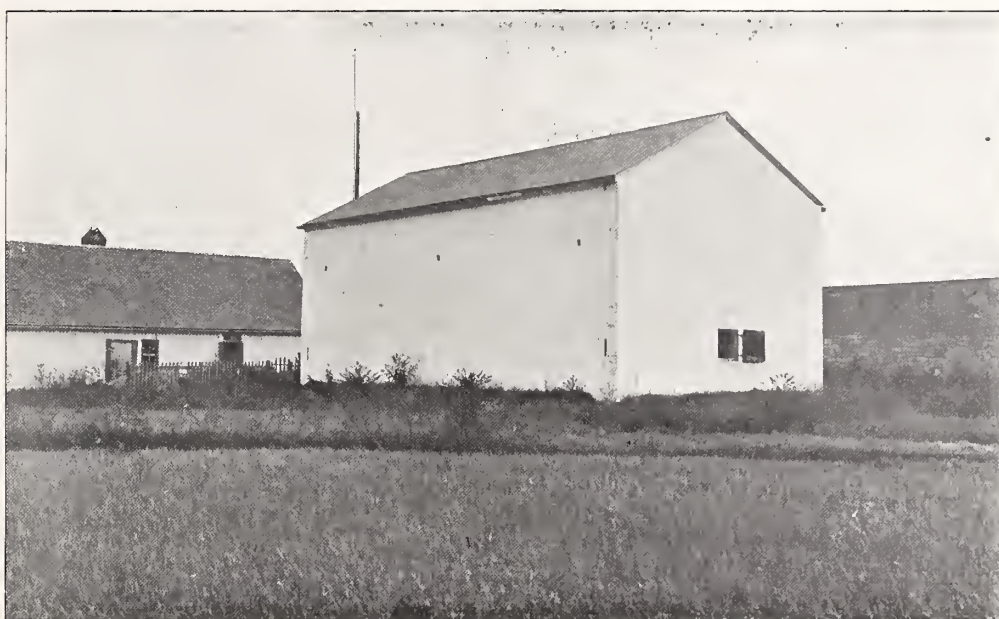
Later the Holland Company gave them two square miles adjoining their first location, and in 1804 the Secretary of War paid \$13,722 (out of funds held by the United States in adjustment of their claims upon North Carolina, where they originally dwelt and whence in 1712 they were driven) to that company for 4,329 adjoining acres for them. The Tuscarora Reservation thus comprises over 6,000 acres. The majority of that tribe in Central New York had been, if not active for, at least friendly to the Americans, and in 1804 all the tribe left their Central New York home, a few of them going to Canada, but the most of them joining their brethren on their present reservation.

her occupation thereof would be of comparatively short duration; as a matter of fact it extended over a period of thirteen years, from 1783 to 1796, an interval designated in history as "The Hold Over Period." Of course Britain's control of Fort Niagara during this period meant the control of the entire frontier, and of the whole of our County, which, save along its western edge (and that solely by reason of the existence of the forts and the presence of the soldiers), was unsettled by white men.

LAND TITLES.

In 1784 the State of New York had declared the mile strip, one mile back from the Niagara River from Lake Ontario to Lake Erie prohibited from sale.

After the Revolutionary war claims to the land of what is now Western New York were made both by Massachusetts and New York. There were negotiations both in and out of Congress, and finally in 1786 these two States came to an agreement. Massachusetts ceded to New York all the claim, right and title which it had "to the government,



FRENCH MAGAZINE AT FORT NIAGARA—LATER, MORGAN'S DUNGEON.

They were good friends to early white settlers; they loyally accepted the sovereignty of the United States and have ever since been good neighbors and faithful to the Government. Today, as to creed, there is not among the Tuscaroras a Pagan family, recognized as such; a condition which does not exist among any other Indian tribe in the State of New York.

"THE HOLD-OVER PERIOD."

In August, 1780, the first United States flag reached our County, not in triumph, but delivered at Fort Niagara by a band of Oneida Indians who went there to assure the British that they abandoned their friendship with the revolting Colonists and to swear their allegiance to the Crown.

At the close of the Revolution most of the Iroquois in New York State, feeling that Britain, who had induced them to take up arms on her side, had made no provision for their protection when she signed the Treaty of Peace, refused to follow Brant's advice and go to Canada, wisely trusting to the good faith of the new nation, and remaining under the jurisdiction of New York. The Tuscaroras were among them.

At the close of the Revolution, Great Britain, by agreement, retained five forts, all concededly on United States territory, of which Niagara was one. It was supposed that

sovereignty and jurisdiction" of the lands, and New York ceded to Massachusetts "all the right of pre-emption of the soil from the native Indians."

In her settlement with Massachusetts this mile strip was reserved to New York subject to such Indian title as might exist, which title she subsequently bought.

The right to buy from the Indians their title to the rest of what is now Niagara County thus passed to Massachusetts, who sold it to Phelps & Gorham, included in a vast acreage. On their failure to carry out their agreement with Massachusetts, the right to buy from the Indians the land west of the Genesee River, including all of our County except a part of the mile strip, reverted to that State.

In 1791 she sold all the above right to Robert Morris, the financier of the Revolution, who thus at one time held an option on nearly the whole of Niagara County, when it was included in and was on the western border of what was known as "The Genesee Country," which comprehensive term then included some 5,000,000 acres. In 1792 and 1793 he sold most of these rights and titles, including all that related to Niagara County, to certain capitalists in Holland, generally known as the Holland Land Company, agreeing to make the purchase from the Indians of their title.

The United States in the treaty with the Senecas in 1794

explicitly recognized their title to the soil of all Western New York, which embraced all of our County except that portion of the mile strip lying between Lake Ontario and Gill Creek, and agreed that it should remain theirs until they chose to sell.

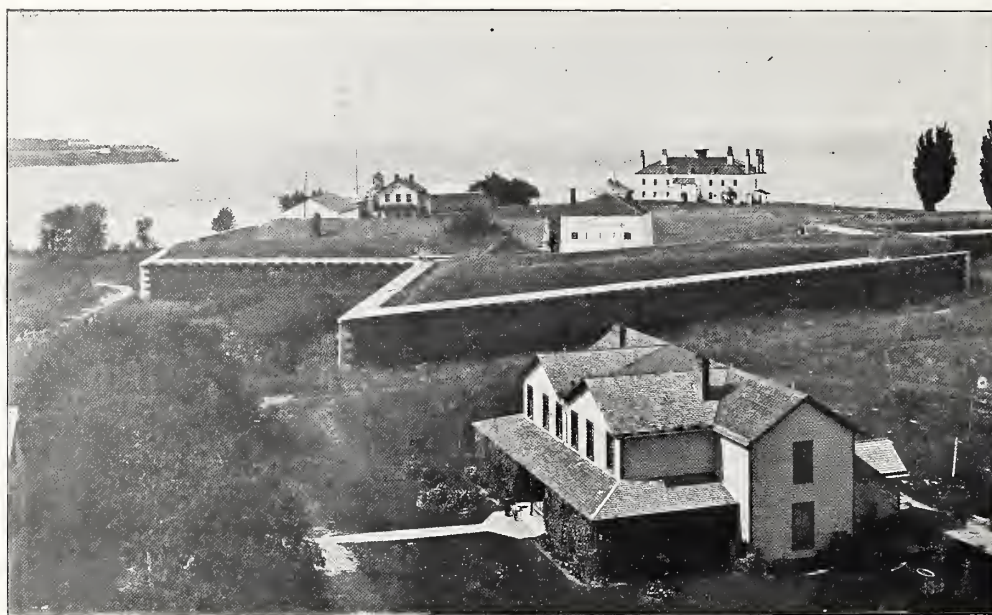
After many unsuccessful attempts on the part of the United States to secure the evacuation of the five forts held by the British, under the terms of Jay's Treaty, the date was finally set therefor as June 1, 1796. Fort Niagara, the most important of them all, was finally evacuated on August 11th of that year, and the territory of our County then came under the actual protection of the Stars and Stripes. During the period of her ownership of this Frontier, from 1759 to 1783, Britain had built thirteen forts along the western edge of the present Niagara County, and besides had strengthened Fort Niagara.

All of these thirteen forts passed into the actual ownership of the United States with the evacuation of the latter fort, but in anticipation of their ultimate surrender, few if

In 1799 the United States Customs District of Niagara was created, Fort Niagara being the first port of entry. Later this was removed to Lewiston, and later still to Niagara Falls.

By 1801 the Federal Government was in shape to consider the defense of this Frontier, and in that year a military road from Fort Niagara to Lake Erie was projected, and the next year the trees along the proposed line were felled, but not drawn off, from the top of Lewiston Mountain to Tonawanda Creek. A disagreement between the Federal Government and New York State caused the former to abandon the project, and it was never completed.

Up to this time our County had been only a supposable part, as it were, of other counties. Thus from 1683 to 1772 we were credited as a part of the County of Albany, subject to the British Governor at New York; while as a matter of fact it was not until her overthrow of French supremacy, by force of arms in 1759, that Britain's subjects even ventured into this territory. From 1772 until 1784 we were included



FORT NIAGARA OF TODAY.

any repairs had been made to them by the British, so their acquisition was of no defensive value whatever to us.

After the British had evacuated Fort Niagara, which had long been the great, and during the "Hold Over Period" the only center of her influence over the Six Nations, it was fitting that there the chain of friendship between those savage warriors and the United States should be brightened. Here in 1796 the representatives of the various tribes met the United States commander and renewed their promises of fidelity and among other gifts received a United States flag and a barrel of rum.

In compliance with his agreement, in 1797, at a treaty held at Big Tree with the Senecas, Robert Morris purchased from the Indians all the lands west of the Genesee River, excepting certain reservations. Thus all of the present Niagara County, except the "Mile Strip" lots and the Tuscarora Reservation, of a mile square, became in fee the property of the Holland Land Company in December, 1798.

The project of a town upon the Niagara River was early entertained by the State. In 1798 the Surveyor General, Simeon De Witt, was directed by the Legislature to "select, survey and report on the location of a town on the Niagara, on lands where the Indian titles had been extinguished." He reported in favor of the site of Lewiston; where in the subsequent plotting of the mile strip, a square mile was reserved to the State.

in Tryon County. From 1784 to 1789 we were a part of Montgomery County, though still under the British rule of Fort Niagara.

In 1789 Ontario County was formed and we were a part thereof until 1802; though from 1789 until 1796 Fort Niagara, in British hands, dominated us.

But in 1802, when we had been under the actual protection of New York State for six years, Genesee County was erected by the Legislature, the act being dated March 30th of that year.

In the spring of 1802 the first bona-fide settlements were made in what is now Niagara County.

In 1802 the State of New York, at a treaty held at Albany, acquired the Indian title to the mile strip from Lake Erie to Schlosser. The title to that part of the said strip from Schlosser to Lake Ontario, that is the entire portage, having theretofore been treated by the United States in their treaties with the Indians as having been British territory, free from any Indian claim, under their surrender or deed of it to Sir William Johnson in 1764, and hence belonging to the United States at the end of the Revolution.

In 1804 the United States established a shipyard on the "Little River" at La Salle, and here was built the "Niagara," a small sloop of fifty tons, not put in commission till bought by Porter, Barton & Co. in 1806 and renamed the "Nancy."

In 1805 the State of New York offered the "Mile Strip," with certain exceptions, for sale. In the present Niagara County these exceptions included some 600 acres at the mouth of the river, where Fort Niagara stands, which have since, both in title and jurisdiction, been ceded by the State to the Federal Government, but only so long as they are used for military purposes. Also a square mile at Lewiston, this being at the foot of the portage; and an irregularly shaped piece, comprising some 600 acres, and then known as the "Stedman Farm," on the upper river, west of Gill Creek, this including the upper terminus of the portage.

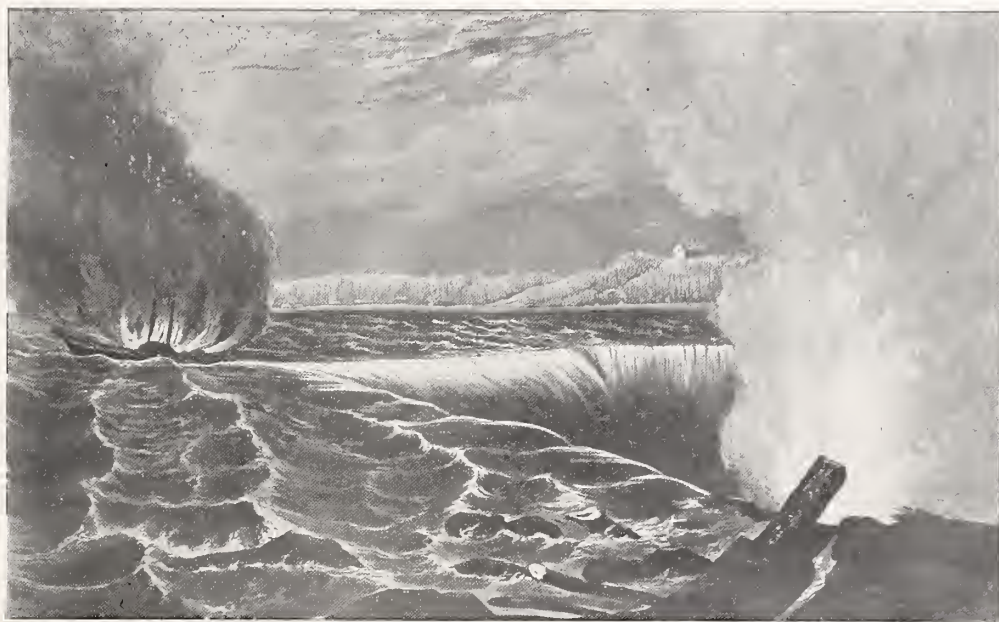
The mile strip, from lake to lake, save for the three above exceptions noted, and others in the limits of the present Erie County, had been surveyed into lots, commencing with No. 1 near the mouth of the river, and ending with No. 107, at Black Rock. Of these lots Nos. 1 to 82 inclusive are comprised within our County today.

Among the prospective buyers at that sale were four

and Schlosser together with the lands exempted from sale at each place, and the exclusive rights of the portage. The conditions were, an efficient transportation service, the supervision of the portage charges by the State and the erection by the lessees of warehouses, docks, etc., at each terminal; which improvements were to become the property of the State at the expiration of the lease. The responsible bidder, accepting these terms for the shortest number of years was to secure the lease, which amounted to a practical monopoly of the vast transportation business to and from the west.

Porter, Barton & Co. secured this lease on a time limit of thirteen years and promptly built the necessary warehouses, wharves, etc.

From 1805 until the completion of the Erie Canal in 1825, Niagara County, by reason of that exclusive lease by the State, was a prime, if not the most important, factor in the freightage between the East and West.



BURNING OF THE STEAMER CAROLINE.

PORTER, BARTON & CO.

men from this end of the State, who there formed a partnership under the name of Porter, Barton & Co. It was a famous firm during the next twenty years, had a monopoly of the portage business around the Falls of Niagara, through the lease it held from the State, providing wagons and ox-teams for the transportation of all goods between Lewiston and Schlosser, also owning and operating bateaux between Schlosser and Black Rock, and being interested in vessels on Lake Ontario and Lake Erie; and which in connection with prominent firms at Oswego, Schenectady and New York, contracted to take freight at tide-water and deliver it at Chicago or Mackinac. This is said to have been the first regular and connected line of forwarders that ever did business between the seashore and the greater upper lakes on American territory.

And a vast business it was that the firms of Porter, Barton & Co and Townsend, Bronson & Co. did; for in their vessels were carried the provisions, merchandise and all military supplies for the posts and commercial depots in the northwest; and in their vessels were also carried the eastern bound peltries of the great American Fur Companies and of the important Indian traders.

At the sale in 1805 the State of New York also announced that it would lease the landing places at Lewiston

On March, 11, 1808, Niagara County was erected from Genesee; it included the present Niagara County, and also all of Erie County, the County seat being at Buffalo.

WAR OF 1812.

The War of 1812 of course was not unexpected, but its early effects were felt on our Frontier, which was but feebly defended and entirely unprepared, there being only some 600 men and practically no cannon hereabouts; while along this Frontier on the Canadian side many more men were available and fully 100 guns.

The history of that war here must be very briefly told. Troops and munitions were rushed to our borders. Fort Niagara, then in a weak state, was hurriedly strengthened, and here let it be noted that almost the earliest offer of assistance received at that fort was from a band of Tuscarora Indians, 100 in number, who, headed by their chief, hurried down from the Reservation, thus showing their loyalty by volunteering in defense of the United States.

General Van Rensselaer established his camp just east of Lewiston and from that place on October 13, 1812, some weeks after the declaration of war, struck the first blow, in invading Canada and capturing Queenston Heights; where, by the arrival of British reinforcements and through the cowardly refusal of many militiamen on this side to cross to the help of their countrymen, our forces were defeated and many made prisoners.

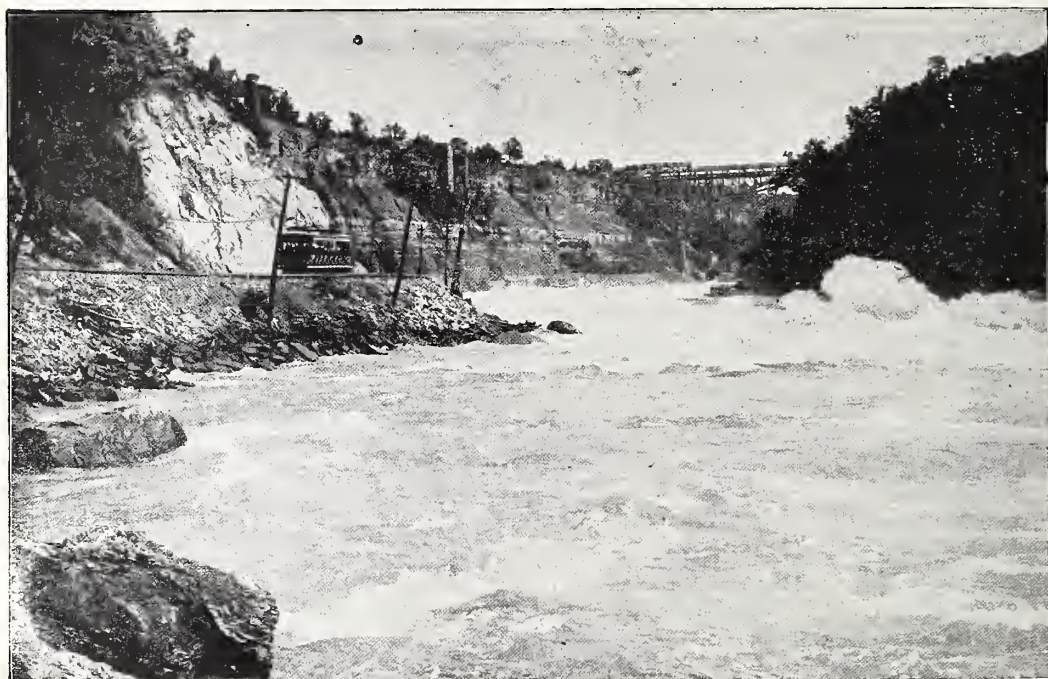
During that battle Fort George bombarded Fort Niagara, and so after an interval of fifty years, and for the first time under the ownership of the United States, the soil of our County was the scene of attack, this time from a foreign shore.

At the top of Lewiston Mountain that same fall the Americans erected Fort Gray, an earthwork battery, but it was never sufficiently supplied with cannon to be of much real service.

During a second bombardment of Fort Niagara our County furnished a famous example of female heroism and devotion. Fanny Doyle, whose husband was a United States soldier and had been taken prisoner at the battle of Queenston, was then at that fort. Remarking that "since the British are preventing my Pat from fighting for the Americans, I will take precious good care that they make nothing by it," she took her stand beside one of the cannon on the roof of the Castle, and from morning until evening,

dwelling on the road to Niagara Falls, then called Grand Niagara, that settlement, and the one at Schlosser, were destroyed and the invaders swept on up the river to Tonawanda Creek; thence they returned to Fort Niagara. There they crossed the river, proceeded to Fort Erie, crossed to and burnt the village of Buffalo; and the whole frontier of Niagara County, as Niagara County then was, was in ruins.

The year 1814 saw the war hereabouts transferred to the Canadian side, to the glory of our cause, in the capture of Fort Erie, in the battles of Chippewa and Lundy's Lane, in the defense and the sortie from Fort Erie, the latter planned and led by General Peter B. Porter. The late fall of 1814 saw the war ended and our arms victorious. The whole frontier of the then Niagara County was desolated, the women, the children and the infirm had fled, most of them to Batavia, for protection. The men had fought well; many of them had been killed. The shore of Lake Ontario, as far east as Olcott, and the mills on the Eighteen-Mile Creek



WHIRLPOOL RAPIDS FROM DOWN STREAM.

she helped to serve it, rendering such valiant assistance that she was referred to in the official despatches "as having exhibited a valor equal to that of the Maid of Orleans."

In 1813 our troops captured Fort George on the Canadian side and held it until December of that year, when General McClure, in abandoning it, needlessly burnt the adjacent village of Newark. Ten days afterwards, in bitter retaliation, the British crossed the river by night, at the five-mile meadows, surprised Fort Niagara, whose gates, incredible as it would seem when such an attack was to be expected, were found unbarred and whose commandant was absent. Such defense as there was was weak, and many of the garrison, even after resistance had ceased, were bayoneted and butchered. Then, on signal, General Riall, with a band of British and Indians, crossed to our shores and began their work of devastation and murder. Youngstown and Lewiston, and the few houses between them, were burnt. The settlers and their families fled for their lives, still many were killed. The defense made by the small garrison in Fort Gray detained those bloodthirsty warriors but a little time.

The Tuscaroras did much to stop the British and their Indian allies from extending their area of onslaught back from the river, and to their resistance many of the white settlers were indebted for the escape of their families. The

above that place, had been devastated. The record of the men of our County in that war was one of suffering, but of glory and of success.

During 1815 peace was officially declared, and Fort Niagara again in our control, from which it has never since passed. The surviving settlers sought out their ruined homes, and with the energy and the perseverance of that race of pioneers, set about the rebuilding of their houses and laying anew, in the territory of their choice, the foundations of their prosperity which the war had destroyed.

By 1816 the families who had sought safety elsewhere, had returned; new settlers were coming in and Niagara County started off afresh on its career of prosperity.

RUIN OF THE PORTAGE.

The business of the portage, which, before the war had been the main source of support of the inhabitants along the frontier, had been ruined. The State agreed to extend the lease for four years, replacing the term for which the war had rendered it useless, if Porter, Barton & Co. would rebuild the warehouses, etc.; and this they did.

In 1821 Erie County was erected from Niagara, leaving us with our present boundaries. Naturally we retained the name Niagara, but the County buildings, being at Buffalo, went to the new County.

THE ERIE CANAL.

The Erie Canal, completed in 1825, passed through our County; and transferred the path of commercial traffic at that time from its western to its eastern boundary. It built up Lockport and Tonawanda, but it took away the activity of Lewiston and of Schlosser; the business of the portage at once became a thing of the past.

WILLIAM MORGAN.

On September 13, 1826, an almost unknown man, accompanied by three others, in a closed carriage, entered the confines of our County by the Ridge Road, and proceeded via Lewiston to Fort Niagara, which was then an unoccupied post. There he was confined for some three days, in the stone magazine. He was William Morgan, of Batavia, who was there preparing to issue a pamphlet, exposing the secrets of Masonry, which he had taken an oath not to reveal. Suddenly he disappeared from the sight and knowledge of men. It was generally claimed that he had been taken out onto the lake in a boat and drowned. A perfect furore swept over the country. Masonry was most bitterly assailed as responsible for his death. An anti-Masonic agitation extended over the land, entering into local, State and National politics. Several men, some of them from this County, were arrested, charged with Morgan's abduction and death. On trial three were found guilty of complicity in the abduction and were sentenced. Morgan's death was not proved, but no satisfactory explanation of his disappearance was, or has ever been, given. He did disappear, and the name of William Morgan, the story of his unknown fate, and the anti-Masonic agitation, which thus had its real foundation on our soil, became for all time a part of our County's history.

A SHIP CANAL.

In 1827 the project of a ship canal around the Falls of Niagara first took definite shape in the preparation of plans and the running of levels (at the expense of a company of Niagara County men). Mentioned before that date in Congress, and many times since brought to the attention of that body, it still remains untouched. But it is not improbable that in the future our commercial and martial needs, especially the former, may result in the construction, on our soil, of that great national engineering work.

THE CAROLINE.

In 1837, during the Canadian Patriot Rebellion, a small steamer, the "Caroline," claimed by her owners to be employed only in carrying sightseers to the patriot camp on Navy Island, but claimed by the Canadians to be carrying arms and ammunition to that camp, lay moored one night at the dock at Schlosser. At midnight on December 29 seven boatloads of British soldiers, crossing over from Chip-

pewa, suddenly boarded her. Her crew and some strangers, who unable to obtain lodgings at the inn nearby, were sleeping on board, were quickly driven off by force. Her fastenings were cut and the attacking party entered their boats, attached a line to her and towed her across to the main channel of the river; then they set her on fire, and abandoned her to destruction, both by fire and the Falls. One man, Amos Durfee, had been killed in the attack. Such an invasion of our territory by an armed force aroused the indignation of the Frontier, of the State and of the Nation. The British Government assumed the full responsibility for the attack made by her militia, and it was only by that Government's apology that another war with her was averted.

IN THE REBELLION.

The famous record of the men who enlisted from our County in the Nation's hour of need, during the Civil War, is appropriately recorded in a separate article. It adds another chapter of glory to our history.

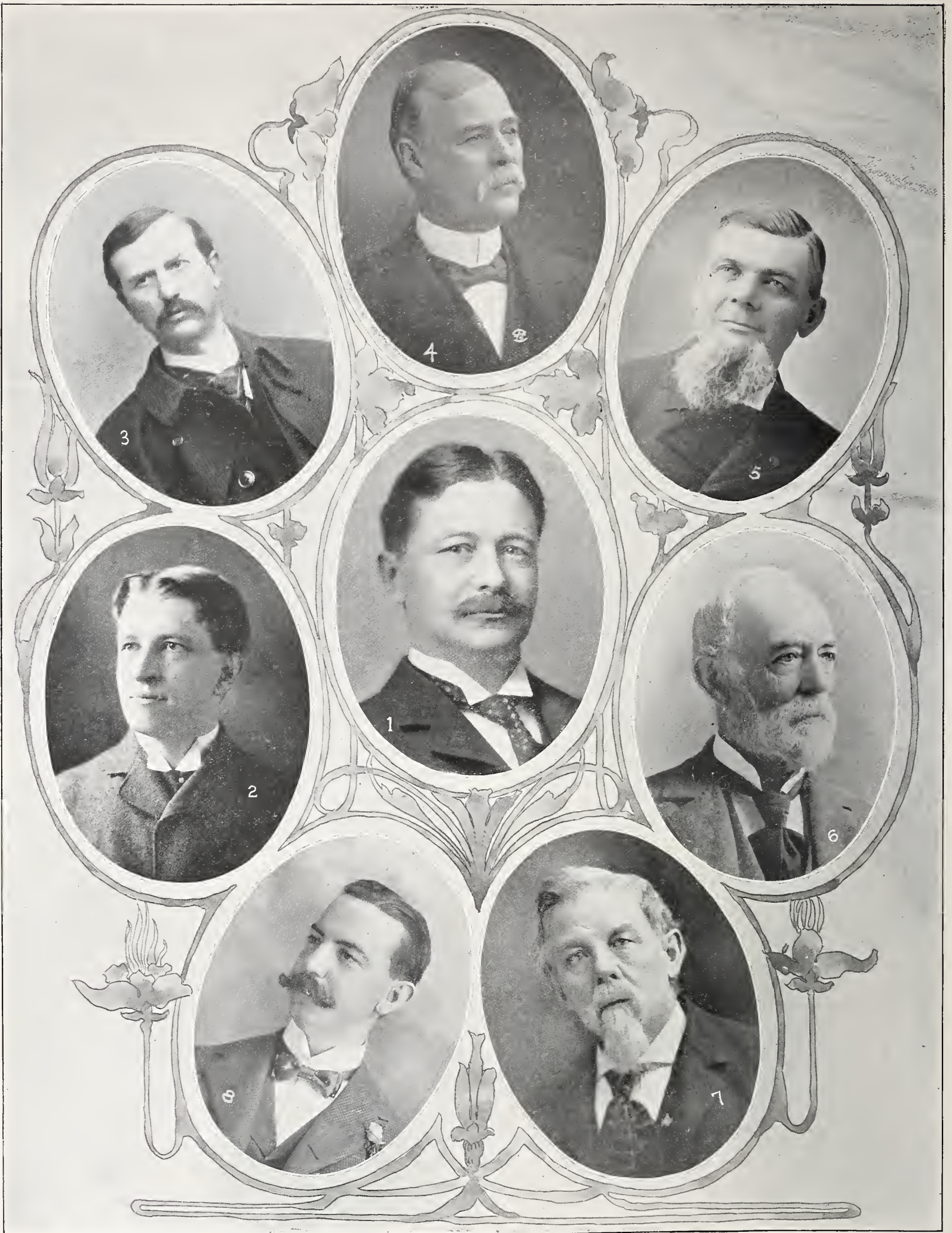
NIAGARA RESERVATION.

In 1885 the plan, proposed some years before, and which had been endorsed by prominent men the world over, to have the State of New York buy the land on her shore around the Falls and restore the scenery to a state of nature, and to make those lands free for all time to all mankind, took form in the opening of the New York State Reservation at Niagara. Today all the buildings that then stood thereon have been removed, the natural banks have been restored, trees have been planted afresh, and so far as man has been able to accomplish it the surroundings of the World's one Niagara are the same as they were over two centuries ago when Father Hennepin first gazed upon this "great and prodigious cadence of water."

THE GREAT TUNNEL.

In 1886 the project of an hydraulic tunnel, as a means of utilizing the difference in level, at Niagara Falls was authorized by Legislative act and work thereon was commenced in October, 1891. It is fully described elsewhere, but must be referred to in this article, as it has made our County famous the world over as the home of the largest electrical development for general distribution on earth. Designed originally for hydraulic power development, the wonderful advances in electrical science have resulted in the employment of almost its entire power in the generation of electricity for transmission; much of it to factories nearby, but a large percentage employed at points miles away, many of them in our own County, though a large number of them are beyond our boundaries.

Such in brief is the story of our famous County, written not locally, but as it appears in the pages of American History.



OFFICERS OF THE PIONEER ASSOCIATION OF NIAGARA COUNTY, 1901—02.

1—HON. PETER A. PORTER, President. 2—REV. BENJAMIN M. NYCE, Chaplain 3—WILLARD J. HOPKINS, Vice President. 4—HIRAM K. WICKER, Chairman Ex. Committee.
 5—PETER S. TOWER, Treasurer. 6—HON. WILLIAM POOL, Corresponding Secretary. 7—ANDREW TEN BROOK, General Manager. CHARLES F. FOLEY, Secretary.

Niagara County Pioneer Association.

COMPILED BY FREDERICK F. PURDY.

A WORK of this character, issued on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the organization of the Niagara County Pioneer Association, would indeed be incomplete without at least briefly recounting the growth of this unique institution of Western New York, where, each year at Olcott, gather old friends from the ends of Niagara County by the thousands to greet each other, and where political fortunes are made and unmade.

The roster of the presidents of the association includes some of the most eminent citizens of the county, past and

present, whom everybody knows, from Youngstown to Wolcottsville and from Somerset to the Tonawandas. But the work would then have such a flavor of autobiography and call for the use of so many capital "I's" that the modest founder of the Pioneer Association insists that this duty shall devolve upon the writer. Consequently, with data which we have secured from him, together with some of his personal reminiscences, we assume this task of compilation, rather than of authorship, with less diffidence than would be the case under any other circumstances.

Andrew Ten Brook, though thoroughly alive to the



1—ANDREW TEN BROOK. 2—BARBARA TEN BROOK.

3—ELIZA TEN BROOK. 4—WILLIAM TEN BROOK.

present, and indicates the high place the Pioneer Association has had during all these twenty-five years in the esteem of the people of the county. The first president was Hon. John Van Horn, who was followed successively by Hon. Franklin Spalding, Hon. Alfred Holmes, Hon. Lyman A. Spalding, Hon. Guy C. Humphrey, Colonel George L. Moote, John G. Freeman, Hon. John Hodge, Elisha B. Swift, Hon. Benjamin F. Felton, Hon. Lee R. Sanborn, Hon. John E. Pound, Hon. Thomas V. Welch and the present incumbent, Hon. Peter A. Porter.

This sketch could best be written by Andrew Ten

present, carries with him the memory and the atmosphere of a former day. His name and his lineaments betoken his sturdy Dutch and Knickerbocker ancestry. Indeed, it has been suggested by people in whose minds Irving's charming Knickerbocker History of New York is fresh that the indefatigable promoter of the Pioneer Association has jumped right out of some of its pages. But be that as it may, whatever reverence he may have for the past, he is still an earnest worker and effective advocate of the purposes for which the Pioneer Association was formed.

Early in the summer of 1877 Mr. Ten Brook read in the

Lockport Journal a notice of the projected formation of a Western New York Pioneer Association at Attica. Recognizing the value of such a society to the pioneers of the County of Niagara, he projected the formation of the organization. He conferred with a number of citizens on the project, among them Moses C. Richardson, former editor of the Journal, and Willard A. Cobb, one of Mr. Richardson's successors. They and others viewed the project favorably and advised Mr. Ten Brook to call a meeting. The meeting was accordingly called and for some reason or other only six responded. However, Mr. Ten Brook went right ahead and issued the call for the first picnic of the "Pioneer Association of Niagara County." It was held at Olcott; and inasmuch as 1,500 people attended, and it was the first effort, it may well be regarded as a success. In 1878 the attendance had risen to 5,000. In 1888, when the log cabin was formally dedicated at Olcott, the attendance was 10,000. In 1900, when Governor Roosevelt was the speaker, the throng numbered 20,000. In 1901 the attendance was 25,000.

THE FIRST PIONEER PICNIC

The first picnic of the Pioneer Association was held in Ten Brook's Grove at Olcott on September 13, 1877. The weather was fine, and notwithstanding the busy season was largely attended by people from all parts of the county, farmers, merchants, manufacturers and politicians.

In the afternoon a temporary organization was effected with Hon. John Van Horn as president and F. N. Albright as secretary. It was resolved to form a permanent organization and the following committee was appointed to that end: J. C. Hopkins, of Wilson, Rev. B. L. Brunning, of Olcott, and Willard Weld, of Lockport.

During the meeting of the committee Peter Tower, of Porter, told some tales of the early settlers' difficulties and trials. He also gave an account of the Morgan affair and a bear story which, according to the newspaper records, were all highly relished.

The committee on permanent organization reported as follows:

For President, Hon. John Van Horn.

For Secretary, F. N. Albright.

For Vice Presidents, Stephen Wilson, Newfane; David Barker, Somerset; Richard C. Holmes, Wilson; Peter Tower, Porter; John Cornell, Lewiston; Asahel Colt, Niagara; Lewis S. Payne, Wheatfield; Daniel Van Horn, Hartland; Orrin Fisk, Pendleton; P. P. Murphy, Royalton; Thomas Barnes, Cambria; Elias Clapp, Lockport.

Press and General Manager, Andrew Ten Brook, Lockport.

Music was furnished by an old-fashioned fife and drum corps of "ye olden time." "Old settlers' speeches" were made by Peter Tower, Daniel Van Horn, David Barker, F. N. Albright and Mr. Fitts.

A short, but very interesting, letter of regret was read from Hon. Lyman A. Spalding, the first grain buyer of Lockport.

None of the speakers came prepared to talk at length except David Barker of Somerset. He read a brief, concise sketch of the lives of some of the pioneers. F. N. Albright was another interesting speaker.

A permanent executive committee was chosen whose duty it was to call a meeting for the next year, arrange for a celebration and for a program of exercises.

Among those present were the following:

Seaman Hoag, Somerset, aged 92.

Herman Halsey, Wilson, aged 85.

Daniel Van Horn, Hartland, aged 83.

Ezra Stratton, Olcott, aged 82.

George Van Fleet, Newfane, aged 82.

Peter Shaver, Newfane, aged 78.

Loren Fitts, Somerset, aged 77.

Daniel Cartwright, Somerset, aged 71.

John Miller, Wright's Corners, aged 71.

P. W. Brigham, Somerset, aged 70.

A. G. Johnson, Newfane, aged 69.

Adam Pease, Somerset, aged 69.

C. K. Swick, Newfane, aged 66.

R. D. Feagles, Hartland, aged 65.

G. W. Mead, Newfane, aged 65.

William Ten Brook, Olcott, aged 65.

John Van Horn, Lockport, aged 64.

Joseph Hess, Olcott, aged 63.

G. C. Hopkins, Ransomville, aged 59.

J. D. Rummery, Newfane, aged 50.

SOME OF THE EARLY MEETINGS.

That the idea of a Pioneer Association had taken hold of the people was evidenced by the fact that at the second meeting, held on August 15, 1878, the attendance had increased to 5,000. It was held at Ten Brook's grove, Olcott, where the picnic of the previous year had been held, and where every succeeding affair of the kind has taken place.

The oration of the day was delivered by George W. Holley, of Niagara Falls, in which he referred to the settlement of the various towns of the county and furnished a valuable fund of information, much of which is embodied in other portions of this book. Dr. Simeon Tucker Clark read an original poem adapted to the occasion, and there were interesting talks by David Barker of Somerset, J. C. Hopkins of Porter, Chipman Turner of Lockport, F. N. Albright of Olcott, Col. S. W. Torrence of Rochester and Capt. W. W. Bush of Lockport. A special committee was appointed to prepare resolutions on the death of Hon. Elisha Clapp, L. F. Bowen, Theodore Hullet and Lewis S. Payne.

The committee on resolutions reported at length in favor of a continuance of the yearly meetings and perpetuity of the association, with a gathering together of all the speeches and poems delivered on each occasion. Thanks were tendered to President Van Horn and to Mr. Holley, who delivered the oration of the day, and to Dr. Clark for his poem. Hon. Franklin Spalding of Lewiston was elected president and Willard A. Cobb, secretary.

At the meeting of 1879, on August 14, the oration was delivered by Hon. Burt Van Horn, and it is described as a masterly effort, that was received with great satisfaction by the audience. Resolutions of respect were adopted to the memory of James C. Hopkins, Jabez Pomeroy, Harvey Beach, Nathan B. Rogers, Ezra Stratton, Aaron Dake and Huldah Bush, who had died during the year. Hon. Franklin Spalding was elected president and Dr. Ephraim W. Gantt, secretary. The following citizens then responded to the call of the president for reminiscences: Rev. S. C. Townsend of Lockport, Captain Van Cleve of Lewiston, F. N. Albright of Somerset, Chipman P. Turner and Joseph A. Ward of Lockport, W. H. H. Childs of Niagara, Ebenezer Seeley of Hartland, David Barker of Somerset and Jonas Young of Niagara. David Hunt of Ridgeway then started a number of old-time hymns, which were sung with much feeling.

The picnic of 1880 was held on August 18, at which time Hon. Alfred Holmes of Lockport was elected president and Willard A. Cobb, secretary. The oration was delivered by Rev. J. S. Bacon of Niagara Falls. The resolutions

adopted referred in fitting terms to the following, who had died during the year: David Gould, Jonas Young, Rodolphus Wilson, John Sitler, Jonas Shook, Lorenzo Webster, Richard Weaver, Benjamin H. Benson, Asa Coates and James Northam. Impromptu speeches were made by Rev. S. C. Townsend, Chief John Mt. Pleasant, Ebenezer Seeley and George W. Holley.

Some ten or twelve thousand people attended the meeting that was held on August 20, 1881. Judge David Millar of Lockport, chairman of the executive committee, called the meeting to order in the absence of Judge Holmes, president of the association. He nominated Elisha B. Swift of Cambria as president of the day. He was unanimously elected and gracefully performed his task. Rev. K. P. Jervis of Somerset was the orator of the day. Hon. Lyman A. Spalding was elected president and Dr. Ephraim W. Gantt, secretary. The committee on resolutions feelingly commented on the death of Hon. John Van Horn, Henry Brown, Thomas Davison and Mr. Fuller. A poem was read

There was an exceptionally large attendance at the picnic of 1886, held August 25. Hon. Richard Crowley was the orator of the day. Col. Moote and Dr. Gantt were re-elected to fill their respective positions of president and secretary.

At the picnic of 1887, which occurred on August 8, a motion was made by Andrew Ten Brook to the effect that the Pioneer Association should build a log cabin at Olcott for the safe keeping of relics donated to the organization. The motion was seconded and enthusiastically adopted and Mr. Ten Brook was appointed a committee of one to solicit logs from members in various portions of the county with which to rear the cabin.

The annual address was delivered by Charles H. Squires. John G. Freeman was chosen president for the ensuing year and Willard A. Cobb, secretary.

THE LOG CABIN.

The dedication of the log cabin was the feature of the



THE PIONEER ASSOCIATION LOG CABIN.

by David Crandall and speeches were made by Hon. John S. Williams of La Fayette, Ind., and C. P. Turner.

At the meeting of 1882, held on August 24, Hon. Lyman A. Spalding was elected president and Willard A. Cobb, secretary. M. S. Hunting delivered the annual address. The usual resolutions were adopted. A resolution offered by Hon. William Morgan of Hartland was adopted, which was an expression of sympathy with the venerable David Barker of Somerset, then in his 89th year, who was suffering from a stroke of paralysis. Ebenezer Seeley, then in his 81st year, responded to a call for remarks with an address, which is described as full of incident and fact and very effectively delivered. Among the venerable women who were present were Mrs. Shepherd of Lewiston, aged 88; Mrs. Anderson of Cambria, aged 85; Mrs. Shafer of Newfane, aged 82, and Mrs. Humphrey of Somerset, aged 83.

James F. Fitts of Lockport delivered the annual address at the meeting of 1883. In the absence of the president, Hon. Lyman A. Spalding, Hon. Guy C. Humphrey acted as presiding officer. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted in the choice of Hon. Guy C. Humphrey as president and Dr. Ephraim W. Gantt as secretary.

The meeting of 1884 was held on August 20 and Charles H. Squires was the speaker. Hon. Guy C. Humphrey was elected president and Willard A. Cobb, secretary.

Hon. A. Augustus Porter was the orator at the picnic of 1885, which occurred on August 13. Col. George L. Moote was elected president and Dr. Ephraim W. Gantt, secretary.

meeting of August 8, 1888. A larger attendance was reported than ever before, especially of the older residents of the county. Among them were Asahel Carpenter of Lockport, aged 100; John D. Townsend of Somerset, aged 93; Elisha Tracy of Warren's Corners, aged 89; James McCollum of Newfane, aged 83; George Steele of Newfane, aged 82; Peter Palmateer of Newfane, aged 82; John S. Cuddaback of Wilson, aged 81, and M. Van Wagoner of Lockport, aged 80.

The brass band, composed of Tuscarora Indians, was one of the novel features. Prof. Compton and chorus were also present. The oration was delivered by Hon. Edward L. Pitts of Medina. On motion of Col. Moote it was resolved to hold succeeding meetings on the third Wednesdays of August.

J. W. Doel, representing the York Pioneers of Toronto, was present with a number of members of his organization. He presented President Freeman with a badge, signifying honorary membership in the Canadian Pioneer Association.

The election of officers being next in order, a full ticket was chosen as usual, and President Freeman and Secretary Cobb were re-elected.

The log cabin was opened for the first time on this occasion. It was filled with relics that had been contributed and solicited from members of the association by Andrew Ten Brook. The cabin was the center of attraction during the day.

The logs had been delivered during the winter and the cornerstone had been laid on June 20, 1888. A number of

the pioneers and their descendants gathered on that day, having brought their axes to assist in the work. Among them was Homer Shaver, with his yoke of oxen, who hauled logs into position. The work was done under the supervision of Andrew Ten Brook and the cabin was designed by Lyman A. Dietrick. It is 24x30 feet, one and a half stories high, with roof projecting over both sides, supported by eight columns. A long chimney, built of stone and brick, is in place, and there are a large hearth and a fireplace.

The cornerstone contains the names of the then President of the United States, Governor of the State of New York, officers of Niagara County, and officers of the Niagara County Pioneer Association. In addition, all those present on June 20, 1888, were invited to inscribe their names upon a roll which was deposited with the other relics, which included a copy of all the Niagara County newspapers and other mementoes. The cornerstone was donated by Thomas G. Watson and came from his celebrated stone quarries at Lockport. The hearthstone was presented by Charles Whitmore from the Rattlesnake Hill stone quarry at Lockport. Stone and brick for the chimney came from the old bake oven in the Pavilion Hotel at Lockport, built by Chauncey Woodward about 1836, also from the chimney of the old residence of Luman H. Nichols on Cottage street, from the old residence of Asa Douglas on Washburn street, from the house of Michael McGrath on Church street, and from the old Wright's Corners Hotel and the old bake oven of James Van Horn, father of Hon. Burt Van Horn, at Newfane.

The following citizens of Niagara County donated the logs for the cabin:

Hon. Thomas T. Flagler, Hon. James Jackson, Hon. A. K. Potter, Hon. Guy C. Humphrey, Hon. Peter A. Porter, Hon. N. D. Haskell, Hon. John Hodge, Hon. David Millar, Hon. John T. Darrison, Hon. C. F. Goerss, Hon. James Atwater, John G. Freeman, Col. William McRae, Col. George L. Moore, Albert H. Pikard, Daniel C. Carroll, William J. Bulger, Charles W. Hatch, M. C. Conlon, W. H. Cooke, Samuel H. Pettit, H. H. Servoss, Frank P. Weaver, John Noble, Samuel Mulhair, Charles Young, Ruthven Kill, C. D. Ackerson, Thomas Stainthroe, William Ten Brook, Thomas McMahon, Moses Brady, Adam Rabb, A. Edick, William Sawyer, Frank Shaver, Peter Phillips, John Edick, Sr., W. Spaulding, W. S. Wright, J. M. Harwood, W. Fuller, J. Coulter, W. H. Lockwood, P. H. Corwin, Col. Hayne, John Henning, Dayton Wright, J. O. Lockwood, Union Printing & Publishing Company, J. Barnes, H. Bullard, E. J. McClew, D. C. Leonard, J. Kelley, C. V. Tompkins, James McClew, J. G. O. Brown, S. Wright McCollum, J. J. Arnold, Martin Wendel, D. E. Brong, D. Elwood Jeffery, J. A. McCollum, A. W. Mitchell, H. H. Sheldon, Andrew Ten Brook, J. Lentz, Mrs. D. Holmes, Reuben Wilson & Co., Ransom & Baker, Shaw & Kenney.

LATER MEETINGS.

The gathering of 1889 occurred on August 21. Hon. John E. Pound was the orator of the day. Visitors from the Canadian association were again present, who were cordially welcomed by Hon. Burt Van Horn in a felicitous manner. Hon. John Hodge was elected president and Dr. E. W. Gantt, secretary. The Canadian guests made brief addresses, after which the visitors gave three lusty cheers for the Niagara County Pioneer Association, which were followed by three deafening roars from the Niagara County citizens for their Canadian brethren.

President Hodge presided over the meeting of 1890.

The annual address was given by Rev. George W. Powell, and there were short speeches by other pioneers present. Hon. John Hodge was re-elected president and Willard A. Cobb was chosen secretary.

The meeting of 1891, on August 19, marked a forward step in point of attendance, when it was estimated that 15,000 people were present. Elisha B. Swift of Cambria was elected president and Col. W. E. Palmer, secretary. Hon. Daniel N. Lockwood delivered the oration. Joseph H. Rainor also made a brief address, after which Selden E. Graves read an original poem.

The meeting of 1892 was held on August 10. The annual address was delivered by Rev. C. W. Camp and there was an oration by Harry R. Palmer, a student of the Lockport Union School. Elisha B. Swift and Col. W. F. Palmer were re-elected president and secretary, respectively.

At the meeting of August 16, 1893, Hon. Benjamin F. Felton of North Tonawanda, was elected president and Col. W. E. Palmer, secretary. The annual address was delivered by Dr. Ephraim W. Gantt, editor of the Lockport Union. Hon. Lee R. Sanborn gave some interesting reminiscences and was followed by Lyman A. Dietrick, Will A. Dietrick and Lyman A. Spalding, son of L. Austin Spalding and grandson of Hon. Lyman A. Spalding, ex-president of the Pioneer Association. A poem entitled "The Original Pioneer of His County," by Miss May Lindsay, was a pleasing feature of the exercises.

Hon. Richard Crowley was the orator of the day on August 15, 1894, in the absence of E. M. Ashley. An old-fashioned choir sang, Charles H. Squires read an original poem and there were reminiscences of pioneer days by some of the early settlers. Hon. Lee R. Sanborn was elected president and Charles H. Squires, secretary.

Hon. William A. Sutherland of Rochester was the orator at the gathering of August 21, 1895. President Sanborn and Secretary Squire were re-elected. Hon. William Pool, corresponding secretary, presented a necrological report of the mortality of the members of the association from December, 1893, to August, 1895, including citizens of 60 years of age and over. There were 173 names on his list. Of these Jeremiah Mitchell was 98 years old, and there were five who died at the age of 90 or over. Hon. John Hodge, former president of the association, died August 7, 1895, a few days before the picnic of that year.

The meeting of 1896 was postponed until September 2, because of the firemen's State convention at Lockport and the celebration of the evacuation of Fort Niagara at Youngstown, being held on conflicting dates. Prof. Edward Hayward, of the Lockport Union School, gave the annual address, and Seth M. Lovell favored the audience with one of his dialect recitations. Hon. John E. Pound was elected president and George S. Gooding, secretary.

The chief speaker at the gathering of 1897 was Hon. Jonas W. Brown; addresses were also delivered by Hon. Richard Crowley and Hon. Thomas V. Welch. Hon. John E. Pound was chosen president and E. T. Williams, secretary.

The Pioneer Association celebrated its majority on August 17, 1898, the organization then being twenty-one years old. The clouds and rain of the morning decreased the attendance greatly, though the fair weather of the afternoon brought it up to nearly the average. Hon. Thomas V. Welch was elected president and Charles F. Foley, secretary. The annual oration was delivered by Edward Taylor of Lockport. An address touching upon educational

matters was given by Hon. Jonas W. Brown and another on behalf of the veterans of Niagara County by Lyman A. Dietrick.

ROOSEVELT AT OLCOTT.

Theodore Roosevelt, then Governor of New York, was the orator of the day at the Pioneer picnic of August 16, 1899. Twenty thousand people were present and the utmost enthusiasm prevailed. The Governor's address was in the rugged, masculine vein that pervades all his speeches. We quote a part of his address:

"I am glad to note the name you commemorate, that of the pioneer. See that building there (pointing to the log cabin visible through the trees), that log house. For fifteen years a good part of the time I was a pioneer myself and lived on the Little Missouri in a cabin compared to which that is a palace. That has two stories. Ours didn't have two stories. That has mortar in the chinks. Ours had mud; and it had a mud roof until a railroad bridge up the

the road were severely tested. Hon. W. Caryl Ely came down on his special car from Buffalo, accompanied by Manager Burt Van Horn, Senator William F. Mackey, orator of the day, and a party of prominent citizens of Buffalo.

In his opening address Hon. Thomas V. Welch, president of the association, referred to the banding together of the cities of Niagara County with their greater neighbor, Buffalo, for the mutual benefit of all, and intimated that the time might not be far distant when the trolley girdle of the county would be completed by the building of the last link, which would connect Olcott with Youngstown and Fort Niagara by way of Wilson.

Hon. W. Caryl Ely, president of the International Traction Company, was then introduced. He referred to the wonderful adaptation of the trolley to the needs of a civilized community, transferring city people to the country and country people to the city. He said he regarded the counties of Niagara and Erie as pioneers in electric railway con-



PINE TREE GROVE AT OLCOTT BEACH.

river broke and we used the timbers that floated down as a roof. * * * I want to refer to that cabin again. The pioneer of the cabins might have reasoned, 'I am not going to disturb the Indians; they might fight me.' If the man had said that, there might be Mohawks here now. They would be free and independent Mohawks, but they'd be Mohawks, that's all."

Mrs. Roosevelt accompanied her husband and was a guest for several hours of Mrs. E. Ashley Smith and Mrs. J. Carl Jackson at their cottage at Olcott, where there was an informal reception.

Frank M. Byron sung "Cuba Libre," a song written and composed by him in honor of Governor Roosevelt's visit to Niagara County.

Among the older citizens who attended the picnic were John Swick of Wilson, aged 96; William Wilson of Wilson, aged 91; and Peter Hayner of Wilson, aged 89 years.

Hon. Thomas V. Welch was re-elected president and Charles F. Foley, secretary.

LOCKPORT-OLCOTT TROLLEY OPENED.

The day of the Pioneer picnic of 1900 will also be remembered as the day when the trolley from Lockport to Olcott was first opened to the public. The occasion took on the character of a joint celebration. It is estimated that the International Traction Company carried 12,000 people from Lockport to Olcott during the day. The facilities of

struction, and predicted a wonderful future for the subtle power.

Burt Van Horn, general manager of the International Traction Company, made a few remarks and promised the best possible service not only for Olcott, but for every point on the company's lines.

Senator Mackey was next introduced and delivered a masterly oration, which was highly appreciated. The Senator is a former resident of Lockport and a graduate of our Union School.

Hon. William Pool, corresponding secretary, reported the death of the following since the last meeting: Col. George L. Moote, ex-president of the Pioneer Association; Hon. Willard A. Cobb, H. H. Sheldon, Harmon B. Tower and Hon. Edward Evans.

Hon. Peter A. Porter was chosen president and Charles F. Foley, secretary.

HOBSON THE GUEST OF THE PIONEERS.

The officers of the Pioneer Association were fortunate in securing the services of Lieutenant Commander Richmond Pearson Hobson, the hero of the Merrimac in the immortal exploit of endeavoring at tremendous odds to block the harbor of Santiago in a way to prevent the escape of the Spanish squadron. They could have provided no speaker who at that time would have been welcomed by the people with greater pleasure. He journeyed through Lock-

port from Buffalo by trolley, accompanied by President Ely of the International Traction Company, President Porter of the Pioneer Association, Dr. James W. Charters, Senator Ellsworth, Sheriff Spalding, Rev. B. M. Nyce and others. The attendance at Olcott was estimated at 25,000.

Lieutenant Commander Hobson took for his subject "The Navy and the Nation," and he was listened to with rapt attention, fully as much by reason of the eloquence of his address as because of the curiosity regarding his person and achievements. In eloquent words he pictured the growth and wonderful prosperity of this country. He called it the granary of the world. He declared that freedom must be guaranteed to our commerce on the high seas and in the harbors of the world, and the only way to secure adequate protection was by a stronger navy. He dwelt

manuscripts or data of value in the preparation of such a work to send them to him or to the secretaries of the association.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—Hon. Peter A. Porter, Niagara Falls.

Vice President—Willard J. Hopkins, Lewiston.

Secretary—Charles F. Foley, Lockport.

Treasurer—Peter S. Tower, Youngstown.

Chaplain—Rev. Benjamin M. Nyce, Lockport.

Corresponding Secretary—Hon. William Pool, Niagara Falls.

Press and General Manager—Andrew Ten Brook, Lockport.

Vice Presidents—Lockport City—First Ward, Hon. T.



GEN. PETER B. PORTER.

COL. PETER A. PORTER.

HON. PETER A. PORTER.

PETER A. PORTER, JR.

upon some of the wonderful earlier achievements of the American navy and also upon some of the events that accompanied the late war with Spain. In every instance he pointed out that this country, with her splendid "men behind the guns," had won victory from a superior force. He urged, however, that in order to keep pace with our expansion of commerce, and to protect our coast line from invasion, we must provide for the building of a greater navy. He said that the people should urge their representatives in Congress to make yearly appropriations of not less than \$25,000,000 for the building of this navy.

President Porter stated that it was the purpose of the Pioneer Association to prepare a souvenir history of Niagara County in 1902 to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the formation of the Pioneer Association. To that end President Porter requested all who had historical

E. Ellsworth, T. M. McGrath. Second Ward, Hon. John Hawkes, S. Wright McCollum. Third Ward, Hon. James S. Liddle, Hon. James Atwater. Fourth Ward, Charles E. Dickinson, Hon. John T. Darrison. Fifth Ward, Hon. John E. Pound, Hon. John H. Clark. Sixth Ward, Charles W. Hatch, Hon. John A. Merritt.

Town of Niagara—H. S. Tompkins, John J. Hopkins.

Lewiston—Wesley Bedenkapp, Dr. W. Q. Huggins.

Cambria—Charles Young, Edward Harmony.

Porter—S. Park Baker, Edward Calvert.

Somerset—J. S. Haight, Hon. G. C. Humphrey.

Wilson—Daniel Woodcock, W. H. Holmes.

City of Niagara Falls—First Ward, S. M. N. Whitney, Hans Neilson. Second Ward, Hon. A. S. Schoellkopf, Hon. Walter P. Horne. Third Ward, Conrad Fink, James Vedder. Fourth Ward, J. J. Vogt, William Carr. Fifth

Ward, Hon. T. V. Welch, Bernard Messing. Sixth Ward, John Whitney, Frank Rieger.

City of North Tonawanda—First Ward, Hon. G. L. Judd, Hon. Dow Vroman. Second Ward, Frederick Zimmerman, Hon. Christian Goerss. Third Ward, Herman Rosebrock, Albert Dornfield.

Lockport—Luther Forsythe, Chauncey Ernest.

Newfane—Dr. O. C. Bordwell, Homer Schaver.

Pendleton—G. C. Richards, Willis Le Van.

Royalton—Robert T. Pearson, John P. Brown.

Wheatfield—Chauncey Wichterman, Charles Kandt.

Hartland—George B. Taylor, Henry M. Bickford.

Executive Committee—H. K. Wicker, chairman; George H. Bradley, Somerset; A. B. Lewis, Lockport, city; Hon. Guy C. Humphrey, Somerset; Burt E. Graves, Royalton; Hon. Thomas V. Welch, Niagara Falls.

Of the foregoing, George H. Bradley of the executive committee; William Carr and Jacob J. Vogt, vice presidents for the Fourth Ward of Niagara Falls, and Hon. G. L. Judd, vice president for the First Ward of North Tonawanda, have passed away.

The Pioneer Association has been fortunate in its presidents. For the past two years its affairs have been directed by a man who by birth and education is qualified in an eminent degree to carry the organization forward to even a higher plane of success and usefulness. Hon. Peter A. Porter is a descendant of a line of illustrious sires and is highly regarded throughout the county because of his public spirit and his high mental attainments. His grandfather, Gen. Peter B. Porter, was clerk of Ontario County in 1797; elected member of the Assembly of the State of New York in 1802; elected to Congress in 1808, 1810 and 1814. He rose rapidly in the military service, and in 1815 was ap-

pointed by President Madison Major General, and would have commanded the northern division of the army had another campaign been necessary in the War of 1812. In 1815 he also filled the office of Secretary of State of the State of New York, and in 1824 he was chosen Secretary of War by President John Quincy Adams.

Col. Peter A. Porter, son of Gen. Peter B. Porter, and father of the president of the Pioneer Association, was a member of Assembly and declined a nomination for Secretary of State of New York. He was Colonel of the Eighth New York Heavy Artillery, and was killed at the head of his regiment at Cold Harbor, Virginia. His son, then a boy, now president of the Pioneer Association, accompanied his father on his way as far as Baltimore, and even yet some Niagara County members of the old "Eighth Heavy" speak of "Little Peter" running about the ramparts of Fort McHenry in that city, when his father's regiment was quartered there, eager to see and hear everything possible about martial life, and only restrained by his extreme youth from joining in the active service. His son, Peter A. Porter, 3d, is now secretary of the Niagara Reservation Commission.

President Porter has been fortunate in securing the promise of the attendance of Governor Odell at the picnic of this year, 1902. The "Pioneers" have always commanded excellent talent on their annual field days. From the character of their recent speakers it will be seen that there is no retrogression in this respect.

With the flight of time the history of the early days will become more highly considered than ever, and "Pioneer Day" should for years to come be cherished and dedicated to the nurture of patriotism and the recounting of the deeds of the fathers who subdued the land and converted a wilderness into a garden.

The Founder of the Pioneer Association.

Andrew Ten Brook, whose portrait is given on page 19, is as much an integral part of this Association as the Prince of Denmark is of Shakespeare's Hamlet.


He originated the idea of the first meeting, suggested the annual gatherings, proposed and saw to the building of the famous "log cabin" at Olcott, and has had the sole charge and direction of all the picnics, having been the general manager for a full quarter of a century; and he is the only man who ever held that position. It is a remarkable record, and the steady growth of the "Pioneers," both in popularity and in attendance, to its present position of an unofficial county holiday, has been due almost entirely to his energy and efforts. There has probably not been a single day during the past twenty-five years when the next Pioneer picnic, and the plans therefor, have been out of his mind.

Andrew Ten Brook's ancestor, Wessel Ten Brook, came from Westphalia, and reached this country in 1659.

One of Wessel Ten Brook's descendants was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Revolution. William Ten Brook, Andrew Ten Brook's father, was born in 1812, came to this county in 1848, and up to his death, in 1889, was one of our best known citizens. He settled at Olcott in 1872, and became the owner of the famous grove, and was for years the proprietor of the hotel, "The Grove House," there, where the Pioneer Association was organized. He married Eliza Hause. Their third child, Andrew, was born in 1838. He married Barbara Shanley. He is now a prominent resident of Lockport, though from his long and successful identification with the village, the grove and the "Pioneers," his heart is probably still at Olcott. And if any one who attends the twenty-fifth anniversary of the "Pioneers," the Silver jubilee, shall ask, "What is to be Andrew Ten Brook's Monument?" the answer is: "It has been erected during his lifetime. It is going to keep on growing. This is it. Just look about you."

Pioneers of Niagara County.

BY PETER A. PORTER.

 ICTIONARIES define a pioneer as "one who goes before, as into the wilderness, preparing the way for others to follow," and that description exactly portrays Niagara County's earliest settlers. And yet in the way in which our Association interprets its title the word is extended to embrace not only the first few, but also the subsequent many, who, during a period of over a score of years, were our early, if not earliest pioneer settlers, in all parts of the county. I have been compelled by force of circumstances to limit myself to 1812 as the latest year in which to treat of individual settlers.

My reasons are, that 1810 is the last year which Turner includes in his lists of the county's pioneers, and I have been unable to find either the original Holland Land Company's papers, or any list of settlers, for later dates. And, so far as the records of our County Clerk's office are concerned, because some settlers were not land owners, some few land owners were not settlers, and in many, many, cases actual settlers had articles of agreement for their lands for many years before they received their deeds; for articles of agreement or land contracts were not placed on record here then as they are now.

Again, knowing that the record I had been able to gather of the years prior to 1813 was so incomplete, and that no doubt many names which belong there are omitted, I have confined my search to the first dozen years of the last century.

To try and give a correct record of settlers and land owners, who came after 1815 (when the war being over settlers came in great numbers), and up to 1825, would make a list too long to admit of publication in an article of this kind. It is a difficult task to gather, in even an approximately correct way, the data of what I thus call our earliest pioneer settlement. A full century has elapsed since those first pioneers settled here. That generation has long since passed away. The few of the succeeding generation who survive are of great age, and in their minds the exact dates of events that occurred so long ago, and of which they know only from the narrations of their ancestors, are naturally uncertain.

To be absolutely correct in the details, if indeed that could ever be accomplished, would require an amount of historical research among public records, books and private papers, and by correspondence and interviews, that it has not been possible to devote to it.

TURNER'S HOLLAND LAND PURCHASE.

I have placed great and justifiable reliance on the researches of Orsamus Turner, who, in 1849, after long and careful preparation, published his "History of the Holland Purchase."

He had far greater advantages in his search for facts about the early history of our county than we now enjoy. The settlement of the county was then less than fifty years in the past. He had conversed with many of those pioneers themselves, and he seems to have had access to substantially all the valuable records and papers of the Holland Land Company.

Turner's work embraced the whole of the "Purchase,"

that is all Western New York. He did not publish anything like the whole of the knowledge he had gleaned about Niagara County; and he made mistakes; in such a work that was unavoidable. So his book, while it furnishes the groundwork of much of our county's pioneer history, gives it largely in skeleton.

I have tried to supplement the facts as he gives them by a good deal of other investigation, among records and books, by letters and by inquiries.

The result is here grouped together, though it is by no means as full, nor as accurate, as I would have liked to have made it; nor is it a tithe of what is due, nor of the tribute we would all like to pay, to the memories of those pioneer families, whose foresight, labors and hardships laid the foundations for the blessings and prosperity that we, their descendants, enjoy today.

STATE AND HOLLAND COMPANY.

So far as concerns its pioneer settlement, Niagara County must be divided into two parts. First, that part owned by the Holland Land Company, which embraced all the present county, except the Tuscarora Reservation, and that portion of the Mile Strip, from Lake Ontario to Tonawanda Creek; and, second, that portion of the Mile Strip itself. That strip, as its name implies, extended back from the river one mile, and in 1784, by Legislative enactment, was inhibited from sale. In 1798 the State of New York authorized the Mile Strip to be surveyed and subdivided into lots of about 160 acres each, and a town to be laid out therein, where the Indian title had been extinguished. That Indian title had then been extinguished only from Lake Ontario to Gill Creek, and the Surveyor General decided on the site of Lewiston for the proposed town. It was not until 1805, when it had been surveyed and divided into lots, and was opened for sale, that any title could be obtained to any part of this Mile Strip.

The Holland Land Company perfected their title, that is, purchased the Indians' right to the soil, in 1798; and their entire tract had been surveyed into ranges and townships by the end of 1800.

So as early as 1800, any one wanting to settle on any part of the Holland Land Company's tract, could buy land or get a contract therefor, and a record would be kept in the Company's office. Yet it seems to have been a common, and not an unnatural thing, for a settler to go out, select his land, erect his rude cabin and spend a few months, or perhaps a year, to see how he liked the location, before he took the time to make the journey to the Company's office at Batavia, to "book" his home. Hence many men became actual settlers months before any record thereof was made. Joseph Ellicott, in 1801, wrote, "Settlers generally wish to defer entering in articles before they are enabled to commence their improvements." But some men, at an early day, wanted to locate near the river. The State would not sell them the land then, nor was it certain when it would do so. So many located in the Mile Strip prior to 1805. They took their chances of buying, when the sale should occur, either from the State, or from whoever did buy from it. The chances were not very great, for settlers who had made im-

provements on the land were sure to be considered and retained by any owner. So these men simply located themselves on the Mile Strip, and of them and their location there is no official record; in fact, no record, save only in the recollections of their neighbors; and comparatively few of the recollections of any of those early settlers have been preserved in any tangible form. The official record of the titles in the Mile Strip began in 1805.

SOLDIERS AND SQUATTERS.

The present Niagara County became United States soil in 1783, but owing to the retention of Fort Niagara by the British, it did not come under American jurisdiction till the British evacuated that fort in 1796.

In that year it is recorded that "outside of Forts Niagara and Schlosser there was but one white family in the territory embraced within its limits." Neither the name nor the location of that "one family" is given; but it was no doubt that of John Stedman, near Fort Schlosser; and immediately after the British evacuation, which was on August 11, he removed to Canada.

Up to that time no American had thought of "settling" in this western wilderness, which was still under British jurisdiction, as exercised at Fort Niagara.

Prior to 1796 this frontier had had many inhabitants, mostly military, some few civil; all the latter being here solely because the former were.

Joncaire and his French soldiers occupied the block house, under the guise of a "trading house," at Lewiston, from 1719-1726.

Fort Niagara was garrisoned continuously, from 1725-1759 by the French; and from 1759-1796 by the British.

The French occupied Fort Little Niagara, above the Falls, from 1745-1751. They also occupied the "ware houses," that stood respectively at the top and at the foot of Lewiston Mountain, from 1751-1759; and Britain continued that occupation till 1764; and France occupied the second Fort Little Niagara from 1750-1759.

Britain garrisoned Fort Schlosser from 1760-1796; and her eleven block houses along the portage and her fort at Lewiston for many years, beginning with 1764.

It is probable that between 1760 and 1794, at all times, there lived around Forts Niagara, Lewiston and Schlosser, men, not members of the garrisons, but connected with the business of the portage, and it was solely for the protection of that portage that these forts were maintained.

But those men came here merely to do business for a time, with no intention of remaining permanently. They would never have come here but for that portage business, nor did they remain after that business dropped off.

They were all Colonists, who sympathized with the British in the Revolution, and at the close of that war most of them moved away. After the signing of Jay's treaty, in 1794, when the summer of 1796 was fixed for British evacuation of Fort Niagara, and it was certain that their business was at an end, even the few of them who were still here promptly departed. They had been merely "squatters." They never intended to be, and never were, settlers.

John Stedman, who long had charge of the portage business, was here much of the time from 1760-1796.

The Tuscaroras, some of them, actually settled here in 1780, on their reservation. In 1788 Martin Middaugh, a Dutchman, kept a tavern at Lewiston. He went there because the United Empire Loyalists, in great numbers, were continually passing that way, going to Canada. Before 1794 that travel was over, and in that year we find him located as the first settler at Buffalo.

Other names might be cited, men who were here during the "Hold-over Period," 1783-1796, including those of Henry Huff, Hank Mills, Philip and William Stedman and McBride. But they were only temporary dwellers, here on some particular business. They were not the actual pioneer settlers of Niagara County.

THE REAL PIONEERS.

The real pioneers, the men and women whose deeds and memories our Pioneer Association honors and reveres, were those Americans who, after 1796, when this territory came under the jurisdiction of the United States, came to this section with the intention of making it their home. What I may call the primary pioneers were those who settled here before the War of 1812. Those whom I may designate as the secondary pioneers settled after 1812 up to at least 1825, and probably up to 1835.

When John Stedman departed to Canada, in 1796, he deputed Jesse Ware to look after his property. This consisted of a pretended grant of some 5,000 acres, bounded by the Niagara River and the present Portage Road from Fort Schlosser to the Devil's Hole. He declared the Senecas had given all this land to him, because of his escape from the Devil's Hole massacre in 1763. Less than 200 acres of this, all of it lying near Fort Schlosser, had been cleared by Stedman when he left. Neither the Senecas nor the British had ever recognized the claim, and in 1806 the State of New York ejected Ware, and, still later, the courts declared the claim valueless. In 1796 Ware's family was living in Massachusetts, and he appears to have come on here each summer.

FIRST TAX ROLL.

On October 6, 1800, the first tax roll for the territory west of the Genesee River was made out, all that land being in the Town of Northhampton. There were on that roll but three taxable persons in what is now Buffalo, and not a single one in the present Niagara County.

FIRST SETTLEMENT, 1802.

No settler seems to have located in our county until the fall of 1801. Then, tradition says, one John Lloyd, who had been a soldier at Fort Niagara, settled on the lake shore, three miles east of the Fort, but it does not appear from the Holland Land Company records that he "booked" any land. After the War of 1812 he is said to have settled on lot 27.

In 1802 the real pioneer settlement of our county commenced. In that year Lemuel Cooke, who had been a soldier at Fort Niagara in 1798, and from then till 1802 had had charge of the ferry to Canada at that point, the ferry being dominated by the army, moved his family to Lewiston, and settled there, moving later to the so-called Brant farm, three miles from the river. So far as I can learn he was the first bona fide white pioneer settler in our county. Turner, speaking of the Cooke's, says: "No other family has been longer identified with the Holland Purchase hereabout."

In the same year Jesse Ware seems to have moved his family from Massachusetts to Schlosser; and in the summer of that year Silas Hopkins, an American, but who had been doing business in Canada, came and settled in the Town of Porter, probably near Fort Niagara. So far as I can find out, those three men were, in the order named, Niagara County's earliest pioneer settlers. Descendants of all three, and bearing their respective family names, are today residents of our county.

Adam Strouse (a brother-in-law of Howell's, who made

the first settlement on Howell's, or Eighteen-Mile Creek), located in Lewiston (probably so as to have a neighbor in Cooke), in the fall of 1802; but early that winter he was induced to move to Cold Springs, east of Lockport, where he erected a shanty. The special object of his locating there was to accommodate the mail contractor between Canandaigua and Fort Niagara, so that his mail carrier could find a fire at which to warm his fingers, Cold Springs being on the Indian trail between those two places.

John Dake and Jedidiah Darling "booked" land in Township 14, Range 6, that same year, according to Turner. Jacob Christman seems to have located at the Rapids on Tonawanda Creek, and George Van Slyke at the mouth of the same creek, in 1802, both becoming land owners later. And in that same year four men by the name of Beach, all brothers, it would appear—John, Jesse, Philip, and Harvey—moved into this territory. Just then the Beaches comprised one-third of the entire male population of the present Niagara County.

CENTENNIAL SETTLEMENT—1902.

With such records of these twelve men settling here in that year, 1802, we rightly celebrate at this 25th anniversary, in 1902, the centennial of the bona fide settlement of Niagara County by the whites.

THE EARLIEST SETTLERS

According to Turner the following list embraces the names of all "settlers" of the Holland Land Company, that is, those who contracted for land, in what is now Niagara County, from the commencement of their sales, up to January 1, 1807, and in the order in which contracts were taken.

From examination of many original "articles of agreement" made by the purchasers with the Holland Land Company (two volumes of which are in the Buffalo Historical Society), I find that the list is incomplete.

The general survey of the Holland Company was made by Joseph Ellicott in 1798 and 1799, the whole tract west of the Genesee River being divided into townships and ranges. The map will show what townships and ranges were included in Niagara County.

As noted elsewhere many men "settled" before they received contracts for their land:

1802.

Town 14, Range 6—John Dake, Jed. Darling.

1803.

Town 14, Range 5—Gad Warner, Lemuel Ashley, Henry Ellsworth, David Munn, John Caldwell.

Town 14, Range 6—Michaga Howe, Daniel Batchelder, John Pickard, Major (Joshua) Slayton, Henry Schwartz, John Brewer, Israel Owen, Nathan Powers, Dennis MacKay, Ransford White, Stephen Hoyt, James Dunn, Thomas Slayton.

Town 14, Range 9—John Beach, Lemuel Cook, David Thompson, Samuel Taylor, John Gould, Solomon Gillett.

Town 15, Range 5—John Morrison, Amasa Darling, James Davidson, John Dunn.

Town 14, Range 7—William Howell, Isaac Taylor.

Town 14, Range 8—Philip Beach, John O. Prentice, Chapman Hawley, Adam Strouse, Eli Harris, Jesse Beach.

Town 15, Range 9—Elijah Doty, John Waterhouse, Silas Hopkins, Peter Hopkins, Obediah Hopkins, Conrod Zittle, Ephraim Hopkins, John Clement, Robert Bigger, James Benedict, William McBride.

1804.

Town 15, Range 5—Daniel Brown, John Palmater.

Town 15, Range 6—Jedediah Riggs, Joshua Slayton.

Town 13, Range 9—Nicholas Whittinger.

Town 14, Range 6—Charles Wilber, Isaac Clark.

Town 14, Range 7—John Forsyth.

Town 14, Range 8—Joseph Howell, Joash Taylor.

Town 14, Range 9—George Armisted, James Powers, Hugh Hewitt, Jacob Pue, Benjamin Pomeroy, Elias Rose, Parley Wallace, Josiah Benjamin, Asahel Sage, Erasmus Enos, Robert Moore, Amasa Stoughton, Samuel Stoughton, Philip Beach, Daniel Totten, Henry Totten, Joseph Taylor, Asahel Taylor.

Town 15, Range 9—Ephraim Hopkins, Samuel Hopkins, Peter Hopkins, John Freeman, John Wilson.

1805.

Town 13, Range 5—John Henry.

Town 14, Range 6—Nathan Clark, Reuben Lewis.

Town 16, Range 6—William Gordon, Rimmon Colton, Stephen Colton, Isaac B. Taylor, Burgoyne Kemp, Ira Potter, William Wisner, David Wisner, Francis Albright.

Town 14, Range 9—Benjamin Dickinson, Soloman Skinner, Jacob Bragbill, Frederick Bragwell, Reuben Hurd, Elias Blanchard, Solomon Gould.

Town 15, Range 5—Oliver Castle.

Town 15, Range 6—Nathan Toles.

Town 14, Range 7—Isaac Trowbridge, Garrett Stoughton.

Town 15, Range 7—Moses Hutchins, William Chambers, John Armstrong, Digby Small.

Town 13, Range 8—Benjamin Kelso.

Town 13, Range 9—Zacharias Warner, Isaac Swain, Dennis Morris.

Town 15, Range 9—William Coggsell, Jonathan Jones, Samuel Shelby.

1806.

Town 13, Range 5—David Higgins.

Town 14, Range 7—John Griffith, John Freeman, William Molyneaux, Ephraim Waldo.

Town 13, Range 9—Ezekiel Hall, Benjamin Hopkins.

Town 14, Range 9—Daniel Howell.

Town 15, Range 9—Peter Ripson, John Brown, William McBride.

Town 14, Range 6—Leander Hamlin.

Town 13, Range 7—George Van Slyke, Eli Bradley.

Town 14, Range 8—Josiah Cooledge, Aaron Dennis, Joseph Howell, Sr., Charles Richards, Lewis Harris, James Burley.

AFTER 1806.

Turner gives the following list of the first half dozen settlers in our county in each of the following years. I have been unable to find the original papers of the Holland Land Company for those years and so cannot add to the lists of those who then took contracts:

1807.

Town 13, Range 8—Edward Smith, Solomon Wolcott, Marvin Judd, Thomas White, Daniel Judd, Ozias Judd, Benjamin Graham.

1808.

Town 13, Range 7—George Van Slyke, Peter Taylor, Peter Conley, Silas Pratt, David Sprague, Abraham Miller.

1809.

Town 16—Range, 5—Daniel Kemp, Jacob Fitts, John Landers, Henry Palmer, Hezekiah Brace, Dorastas Chapman.

1810.

Turner also gives the following list for 1810, but it is incomplete:

Town 13, Range 5—Clark Beach, William B. Smith, Semar Sinclair, Nathan Bradley, Silas Pratt, Patrick Grace, Lawrence McMullen.

Town 15, Range 8—Benjamin Burgess, Abner Baley, Stephen Sheldon, Cyrus Coats, David Wood, Martin Sparbeck, George G. Scrafford, Garrett Gray.

Town 13, Range 6—Palmer Utley, Daniel Hamlin, John M. Cole, Aaron Crego, John Stranahan, Abraham Flagg.

ADDITIONAL NAMES.

I have been able to add the following. Where Townships and Ranges are given, I have secured the names from the original "articles of agreement" with the Holland Land Company, or from the Niagara County Clerk's office. In other cases I have gathered them from many sources

1803.

Town 14, Range 9—Thomas Brown, Josiah Coalidge, James Brisbane.

Town 14, Range 8—Asabel Murray.

Hartland—Jehelan Barnum, Isaac Southwell, David Morrison.

Royalton—Varney Gaskill, William South.

1804.

Town 13, Range 6—Jacob Christman.

Town 15, Range 9—John McKerler, William Waterhouse, John Wilson, Robert Lee.

Town 14, Range 9—Sparrow Sage, Daniel Jones, Thomas Morfort, Christopher Van Sicklan, James Jones.

Town 14, Range 8—Joseph Hurst.

For Tuscaroras, Lewiston—Gen. Henry Dearborn.

Cambria—Walter Neal, Joseph Hewett.

Royalton—Alex. Haskins, Samuel Capon, Loudon Andrews, Benjamin Hale, Barnum Treadwell, Marvin Harward.

Porter—Abraham Doty, Smith Sheldon, ——— McIntyre, Abraham Van Curtin, Andrew Van Curtin.

1805.

Town 15, Range 9—Joseph Smith.

Town 14, Range 8—Anthony German.

Town 13, Range 9—James Jones.

Royalton—Abijah Perry, Stephen Bugbee, Stephen Hoyt, Andrew Brown.

Porter—John Brown.

Hartland—Abel Barnum, Jephtha Dunn.

Newfane—Joseph Hewett.

Mile Strip—Benjamin Barton.

1806.

Cambria—James Prentice, James Harrison, Stephen Hopkins.

Lewiston—John Robinson, ——— Watson.

Porter—William Cogswell, Jonathan Lutts.

Lockport— ——— Plant, ——— Klink.

1807.

Lewiston—John Latta, Benjamin Barton, Jonas Harrison.

Newfane— ——— Cotton.

Porter—Jacob Lutts, John Young.

Mile Strip—Jacob Mancius.

Wheatfield—John Harvey, ——— Walton.

Royalton—Roy Marsh, Stephen H. Baldwin, John Dunn.

Hartland—Enoch Hitchcock.

1808.

Wheatfield—James Field.

Cambria—Russell Weaver, Joshua Cornell.

Wilson—Robert Waterhouse.

Lewiston—Reuben Lewis, Thomas March, ——— Tiffany, ——— Finch, Dr. Thaddeus Alvord.

South Ridge—Harry Steadman.

Newfane—William Howell.

Pendleton—Martin Van Slyke.

Porter—Robert Garnsett.

1809.

Lewiston—Jared Randall, Jacob Townsend, Sheldon Thompson, Aaron Childs.

Wheatfield—George Burgher, Jacob Stover, William Scott.

Somerset—Archibald Whitton, Philip Fitts, Truman Mudgett, David Mudgett.

Hartland—Benjamin Cowell.

Newfane—James Van Horn.

Mile Strip—Alex. Miller.

Porter—Michael Lutts.

Lockport— ——— Gregory.

Wilson—Stephen Sheldon.

Town 15, Range 9—James Cuddeback.

Town 14, Range 6—Abel Bugbee.

Town 13, Range 8—Abraham Hostetter.

1810.

Wilson—Reuben Wilson, John Eastman, Gilbert Purdy, Erastus Barnard, ——— Goodman, George Ash.

Somerset—Jacob Fitts, Zacharias Patterson.

Wheatfield—Joshua Pettit.

Lewiston—Andrew Sutherland, Dr. William Smith.

Newfane—Benjamin Halstead.

Hartland—Asa Crane.

Lockport—Thomas Miles, Silliman Wakeman, David Carlton, George Miller, Alex. Freeman, John Dye, Joseph Carlton, David Pomeroy, Thomas Mighells, Jabez Pomeroy.

Town 14, Range 8—Amos M. Kidder, Jairus Rose.

Town 14, Range 7—Hugh Murphy, Joseph Murphy.

Town 13, Range 8—Andrew Gerber.

Town 15, Range 7—Henry Lockwood.

1811.

Royalton—Asher Freeman.

South Ridge—Aaron Beach.

Newfane—Levi Lewis, Joseph Pease.

Hartland—David Van Horn, Benjamin H. Benson.

Lewiston—Ackish Pool.

Wilson—Elijah Mallory.

Porter—S. Deveaux.

Lockport—Alex. Freeman, ——— Odell, John Hurder.

Cambria—Philo Cowell.

Town 14, Range 7—David Klink.

Town 14, Range 6—Stephen Wakeman.

Town 14, Range 5—James Lyman.

Town 13, Range 6—Samuel Bennage.

Town 13, Range 8—John Schenck, (Minister.)

Town 13, Range 9—Christian Witmer.

Mile Strip—John Young, William Mynderse.

1812.

Hartland—William Smith, Samuel Jenks, John Bates, Adam Bronson, James Lyman, James Shaw.

Mile Strip—Mathias Brown, James Emott, Augustus Porter, Mathias Bruen.

Pendleton—John Fulmer.
 Town 15, Range 5—Nathaniel Thayer.
 Town 14, Range 7—Gilbert Hinds.
 Town 13, Range 6—Adam Fulmer.
 Town 13, Range 7—Simon Bennage.
 Town 14, Range 8—Samuel Carney, Phineas Burchard.
 Town 14, Range 5—James Wilder.

Even in those early days, when this county was a vast forest, and the settlers had to chop down the trees and clear the land, many pioneers were so well pleased with their new homes that they increased their holdings of land, buying sometimes near their original purchase and again in other parts of the county: probably in the latter case because settlement was progressing faster there. Hence the same name appears some times as a settler in more than one locality.

TOWNSHIPS AND RANGES.

The following table shows the relations between the Townships and Ranges of the Holland Land Company, and the boundaries of the present towns in our county. "T" stands for Township and "R" for Range of the Holland Company survey. A very small part of T. 12, R. 8 (at the mouth of Tonawanda Creek); parts of T's 13 in R's 5, 6 and 7; all of T's 13 in R's 8 and 9, and all of T's 14, 15 and 16 in R's 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 were included in our present county

N. pt.	T. 13, R. 5, Royalton.	E. pt.	T. 14, R. 7, Lockport.
	T. 14, R. 5, Royalton.	W. pt.	T. 14, R. 7, Cambria.
	T. 15, R. 5, Hartland.	E. pt.	T. 15, R. 7, Newfane.
	T. 16, R. 5, Somerset.	W. pt.	T. 15, R. 7, Wilson.
N. E. pt.	T. 13, R. 6, Royalton.	N. W. pt.	T. 12, R. 8, Wheatfield.
N. W. pt.	T. 13, R. 6, Lockport.		T. 13, R. 8, Wheatfield.
E. pt.	T. 14, R. 6, Royalton.	E. pt.	T. 14, R. 8, Cambria.
W. pt.	T. 14, R. 6, Lockport.	W. pt.	T. 14, R. 8, Lewiston.
E. pt.	T. 15, R. 6, Hartland.	E. pt.	T. 15, R. 8, Wilson.
W. pt.	T. 15, R. 6, Newfane.	W. pt.	T. 15, R. 8, Porter.
E. pt.	T. 16, R. 6, Somerset.		T. 13, R. 9, Niagara.
W. pt.	T. 16, R. 6, Newfane.		T. 14, R. 9, Lewiston.
N. pt.	T. 13, R. 7, Pendleton.		T. 15, R. 9, Porter.

Of settlers on the Mile Strip I have gleaned the following list of those who were there in
1806.

At Cayuga Creek—"Big" Smith.

At Schlosser—Augustus Porter, Jesse Ware, James Everingham.

Between the Falls and Lewiston—William Miller, William Howell, Joseph Howell, James Murray, Jacob Townsend, Stephen Hopkins, Philomen Baldwin, Isaac Colt, Erastus Parks, Joseph Hewett.

At Lewiston—Thomas Hustler, Joshua Fairbanks, Robert Fleming, Benjamin Hewett, William Gambol, Frederick Woodward, Harvey Beach, Jonathan Bell, William Hotchkiss, N. Leonard.

Near Niagara Falls, mostly on the Mile Strip, settled in
1807.

William Voluntine, Adoram Voluntine, James Fields, Joshua Fairchild, Jacob Hovey, John Sims, Gad Pierce, John M. Stoughton, Ebenezer Hovey.

1809.

Enos Boughton, James Armington, William Van Norman, William Chapman, David Lindsay, Ebenezer Brundage.

1810.

Parkhurst Whitney, James Cowing, Abram Witmer, Oliver Udall, Joshua Fish, Christian Young, Samuel Young, Ezekiel Hill, Ralph Coffin, John Young, John Witmer.

No doubt many persons of whom I have found no record settled here, both on the Mile Strip and elsewhere, prior to 1813. That any such names should be omitted I greatly

regret, but perfection in an article like this is an impossibility. There are several records of land transfers in 1813 and 1814, the two complete years of the duration of the War of 1812, which was declared in June, 1812, and officially ended in March, 1815.

Indeed, it is even recorded in history that during the war, in many instances, settlers fleeing from the western portion of our county toward Batavia for protection, actually met and passed families who were making, and who continued to make, their way westward, to settle in Niagara County, all undismayed by the war on its Canadian frontier.

During and after the War of 1812, up to fully 1825, possibly to 1835, many men who are justly entitled to be classed among our "Pioneers" came here.

EARLIEST DEEDS.

The earliest deeds recorded in Niagara County Clerk's Office, transcribed of course from Genesee County records, are:

1.—Holland Land Company to James Brisbane, of the County of Genesee; dated October 1, 1803; recorded October 5, 1804. Conveys 338½ acres, Town 14, Range 9; consideration \$1,184.

2.—James Brisbane to Paul Busti; dated October 1, 1804; recorded October 5, 1804. Conveys 338½ acres, Town 14, Range 9; consideration, \$1,184.75.

3.—Holland Land Company to Henry Dearborne, in trust for the Tuscarora Nation of Indians; (Mr. Dearborne was Secretary of War of the United States); dated November 21, 1804; recorded April 13, 1805. Conveys 2,221 acres in Town 14, Range 9; consideration, \$10,752.92.

4.—Holland Land Company to Ebenezer Cary of the County of Genesee; dated December 1, 1805; recorded August 1, 1807. 500 acres in Town 15, Range 6, consideration, \$1.

Many of the names that are and have long been prominent in our county are those of persons who came in what I term our secondary pioneer period. As they came after 1812 they do not appear in these lists. To try and enumerate even the heads of each such family would be a long task, one that probably could not be accomplished without omissions, and therefore not a successful one. Most of those names will be found set forth in the separate histories of each city and town in this work.

As stated, I have attempted to write only of those who came here "before the war." And yet the debt of gratitude that we owe to those later pioneers is an enormous one, and is fully recognized by our Association. They supplemented and carried to a successful completion the settlement that their predecessors had commenced. They builded on sure foundations and their names are held in the highest honor, for they and their descendants have been prominent in every line of professional, agricultural and commercial activity in our county.

And so, in this incomplete and unsatisfactory manner, I present this sketch as a partial record of, and a partial tribute to, the men who braved the terrors of the wilderness, who endured many known and many unrecorded hardships, but whose faith and judgment in selecting this immediate section for their own homes, and for the prosperity and benefit of their descendants, has been so abundantly justified by time.

We do rightly in perpetuating and honoring the memories of all those pioneers. They are enshrined in the hearts of those thousands who attend the twenty-fifth anniversary, the Silver Jubilee, of the Niagara County Pioneer Association.

Churches of Niagara County.

BY CLERGY OF THE COUNTY.

ESPECIALLY fitting in a work of this description, dealing so largely with the lives of the pioneers, that there should be put on record the manner in which the religious faith of the fathers was woven into the history of the community. The pioneers were essentially men of piety and faith and as soon as the population of the rural communities was sufficient, the worship of Almighty God was set up in the western country that had so recently been reclaimed from a wilderness. The history of the various Christian denominations in the county has been written by representative preachers who are familiar with the progress of events along their denominational lines, from the time the cross was first set up on the Niagara Frontier until now, when there is a stated place for worship in every hamlet.

Roman Catholic Church.

BY RT. REV. MONS. CANNON.



The first Catholic congregation established in Niagara County was that of St. John the Baptist, in the then village of Lockport. Its membership was made up for the most part of people who had followed the building of the Erie Canal, such as masons, stone cutters and other mechanics and laborers.

This handful of people, about the year 1840, undertook the building of a church, and in the course of a year succeeded in erecting a stone edifice on Chestnut street, which at present forms the rear half of St. John the Baptist Church, as seen today. This work was done during the pastorship of Rev. Father Costello.

The Rev. Charles D. McMullen succeeded Father Costello in May, 1842, as pastor of this church. Owing to a large increase in the membership of this parish, he soon found it necessary to increase the size of the church, and this he did by doubling its seating capacity and by lengthening the building almost to the street. He also built the pastoral residence near the rear of the church, on the lot adjoining it.

The Rev. Thomas McEvoy became the next pastor, October 20, 1850, and was followed by Rev. Michael Creedon, November 13, 1852. Next came Rev. Peter Bede, on September 6, 1856. He was succeeded by Rev. William Gleeson on November 17, 1860, who remained here till May, 1864, when he was called by Bishop Timon to fill the honorable and responsible office of vicar general of the diocese.

On account of a large increase of the Catholic population of the village of Lockport, in 1856, by reason of the building of the New York Central Railroad, St. John the Baptist Church became far too small for its membership. It was also inconveniently situated for very many members of the parish, who were building their homes on the west side of the canal. Evidently it was necessary to build a second church, or at least a large one, to satisfy the growing needs of the parish.

Therefore, in 1856, with this intention, Rev. Michael Creedon, then pastor of St. John the Baptist, purchased two city lots, situated on the corner of Church and Caledonia streets, now occupied by St. Patrick's Church, intending very soon to proceed to the erection of a large and substantial stone building. But as Father Creedon was at this time sent by Bishop Timon to Auburn to do a similar work, the erection of the new church here fell to the lot of Rev. Peter Bede, his successor, who took charge of the parish in September, 1857, and immediately set about the work. By the month of November, of the same year, the undertaking had so far progressed as to be ready for the laying of the cornerstone. This ceremony was performed by the Rt. Rev. John Timon, Bishop of Buffalo, on All Saints' Day, November 1, 1857, assisted by a large number of the clergy, and in the presence of a great concourse of people. In the following spring the work was renewed and continued at intervals during two years until the building was roofed in. Soon after this part of the work was completed Father Bede was sent to Rochester, and was replaced here by Rev. William Gleeson on November 17, 1860. Father Gleeson, during the following three years, completed the work, and on the first day of November, 1863, the church was solemnly dedicated to the service of Almighty God by Bishop Timon. In the following May, 1864, Father Gleeson was called to Buffalo.

With the opening of the new church the parochial residence was transferred to it, and the old Church of St. John the Baptist ceased to be used for parochial purposes, and was turned over to the Sisters of St. Mary for a school, and continued to be so used for about two years.

After that time, owing to the continued increase of the Catholic population, it was found necessary to reopen the old church and to reconstruct that parish. Later on, during the pastorship of Rev. M. J. Darcy, that church was entirely completed by the addition of the facade, with tower and

spire, and it is now one of the finest churches in Lockport.

On the departure of Father Gleeson, Rev. Francis O'Farrell became the next pastor of St. Patrick's parish, and after a stay of about eighteen months he returned to Ireland, with the intention of remaining there for the rest of his life. He still lives. Father Michael O'Brien came next, and Father John O'Mara followed him during the next four years.

On July 12, 1869, the Rev. Patrick J. Cannon came to Lockport from St. Mary's Church, Niagara Falls, sent by Rt. Rev. S. V. Ryan, Bishop of Buffalo, to take charge of St. Patrick's parish.

After paying off an indebtedness of nearly \$7,000, the work of building the great tower was commenced on June 23, 1872, from the foundations, and, together with the two turrets on the front of the church, was carried to completion in the course of ten years. A very large bell and a fine organ were added a few years later, and the old windows were replaced with new glass. The new stone porch was added to the church front in 1890.

The German Catholic parish of St. Mary's was organized in 1860, and used first a frame church in Buffalo street, and in 1885 the present brick edifice was erected.

ST. MARY'S OF THE CATARACT.

Lewiston, Youngstown, and Niagara Falls in 1847 were formed into the parish of St. Mary's of the Cataract, Rev. John Boyle being in charge at Lewiston. Father Boyle built the old stone church on the site now occupied by the present one. This site was donated by Judge Porter at the request of Bishop Timon, who came to Buffalo to take up his work of oversight of the diocese in November, 1847. Previous to that time New York State comprised but one diocese. Bishop Timon was hence the first Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Buffalo.

Father Nolan succeeded Father Boyle in charge of this parish in 1850. Rev. William C. Stephens followed in 1851, and changed the pastoral residence to Niagara Falls. He was transferred to Rochester in 1859, and for the next few years the Lazarist Fathers took charge of the Mission. In 1862 Father Stephens returned, but in five months died, and his body now reposes at the head of the center aisle of the church. After his return Father Stephens had charge only of St. Mary's parish at the Falls, as the Mission had previously been divided.

The brick church at Suspension Bridge was built by Father Stephens about 1858. It was at first called St. Williams, doubtless with some reference to Father Stephens' Christian name, William. The church was, however, subsequently called St. Raphael's, and ten years ago, after the destructive fire, and when the church had been rebuilt by the then pastor, Rev. Thomas F. Hines, the name was changed to the Church of the Sacred Heart. For two or three years after the termination of the pastorate of Father Hines, several priests were consecutively in charge, until Rev. James J. Roche was installed, and Father Roche has continued a successful and progressive pastorate there ever since.

Rev. Patrick J. Cannon succeeded Father Stephens September 16, 1862. By the fall of 1863 an enlargement of the church was begun and completed, and the first service was held December 13 by Bishop Timon, who on the same day consecrated the main altar.

The Academy property was purchased in August, 1864, from A. H. Porter for \$10,000, \$2,000 of it being collected in the parish by Father Cannon, and \$8,000 being paid by the

ladies, who took charge of the institution and opened a day and boarding school for girls.

In the summer of 1865 the enlargement of the school was resumed, and the nave and side aisles were added to the part of the building put up two years before. The nave proper of the new church represents exactly the site and size of the old building. The enlarged edifice was formally opened on November 5, 1865, when the sacrament of confirmation was administered to nearly 100 persons. A new organ was installed in the spring of 1869, at a cost of \$700.

Rt. Rev. Bishop Ryan made his first official visit to the church on May 30, 1869, when he administered confirmation to 140 persons.

This same year was marked by the departure of Rev. Father Cannon to St. Patrick's Church, Lockport (July 12, 1869). He had been over the spiritual interests of the parish for nearly seven years, and after making the many improvements that have been noted, left only a debt of slightly more than \$1,000. He was succeeded by Rev. P. Moynihan, who established a boys' parochial school, and completed the church by the addition of a new facade and towers, at a cost of \$10,000, a debt of nearly \$9,000 being assumed. A bell was purchased for \$1,400, which sum was raised by a committee consisting of S. Geyer, president; Matthies Federspiel, treasurer; Thomas V. Welch, secretary, and Robert Joyce and William Vaeny, collectors.

In 1860 a temperance society was founded in the parish, which has since flourished. In 1876 the Catholic Mutual Benevolent Association was formed by men who desired another organization in the parish, in which the temperance pledge was not an essential. Mr. Barrett was its first president; M. Federspiel, treasurer, and James McKenna, secretary. The organization has since extended over a great part of the Northern States and Canada.

On account of his declining health Father Moynihan left for Genoa in September, 1878, where he died in December of the same year. His remains were brought back to his native city of Batavia, where they were interred. On the same day the Catholic Mutual Benevolent Association, of which he was the founder, was holding its second annual convention at Niagara Falls. On behalf of his old parish, Michael Ryan, Jeremiah Callaghan and Thomas V. Welch were present at the obsequies.

Rev. James A. Lanigan, the Bishop's secretary, was the next pastor. In 1881 about \$500 was expended on sacred vestments; and a new altar, designed by the pastor, and built by Patrick Nolan, his labor being donated, was erected over the table of the old one. The brass repositorium over the tabernacle was given by the French delegates to the Yorktown Centenary celebration, the Marchioness De Rochambeau making the presentation.

In the spring of 1883, after bringing the matter to the attention of the congregation, Father Lanigan secured subscriptions immediately of \$2,200 for a new school house and hall for church purposes. At that time the debt of the church had been reduced to \$3,500. A three-story building for the purpose was decided upon, to cost about \$10,000, and was erected. Ground was broken May 1, 1884; the building was completed October 25, and dedicated October 28 of the same year.

The pastor began the work of building a new parochial residence on May 1, 1886, and celebrated Christmas of the same year in his new house. The expense was \$7,000; \$4,000 of it was raised by a fair and by subscription, the balance being loaned by the pastor to the church.

CHURCHES IN THE TOWNS.

St. Peter's Church was organized at Lewiston in the late forties by Rev. Father Boyle. He was followed by Rev. William C. Stephens, who remained until 1856, or later. Rev. Morris O'Shea was a recent rector, being succeeded by Rev. Patrick T. Mullaney, who took charge in June, 1885. A handsome stone church, complete in all details, was built in 1901 by the energetic efforts of Rev. Henry C. Dolan. St. Bernard's parish was organized in Youngstown a year or two after that at Lewiston, when a chapel was built and services were conducted by the priest from Lewiston.

St. Bridgest's Church, on the Ewing road, in the southwest part of the town of Newfane, was organized in June, 1859, under the direction of Rev. Thomas Sheehan. An acre of land was donated by John Mulloy, and the edifice was dedicated November 30, 1859. This church was a center of influence for a considerable part of the country round for a time, the churches of Cambria, Hartland and Royalton being supplied by the priest from the Newfane church. Three years ago a pastoral residence was built by Rev. Thomas Blakeney, the pastor. The present pastor is Rev. John J. McMahon. The church at Olcott was built in 1884 by Rev. John C. Long, but was administered from Newfane.

St. Patrick's Church, of the Town of Hartland, was founded in 1856, Rev. Martin O'Connor, of Medina, being instrumental in the erection of a frame church on the Quaker Road, near the north line of the town, which was, and is, also attended by many of the Catholics of Somerset. It was dedicated by the Bishop of Buffalo in 1857. In 1865 the building was enlarged, and in 1872 a transept, sanctuary and vestry were provided. Rev. Thomas P. Brougham, who went thither from Newfane, was the first resident pastor. He enlarged the church, doubled its seating capacity, and built a pastoral residence. Rev. Henry Kingston is the present pastor.

The church is represented in the town of Cambria by an edifice on the north side of the road, near the west end of the ridge, which was built in the late sixties, and was administered for years, and is today, from Newfane.

The Church of the Good Shepard, at Pendleton, was organized, and the brick edifice completed, in 1854, by Rev. E. S. Urich. A new front was added five years ago and three bells were put in place. Rev. August Wiese is the present pastor.

The Church of the Ascension, in North Tonawanda, was organized by Rev. J. J. Bustin in 1888, and a church and parsonage were erected soon after. A few years later the church was burned to the ground and Father Bustin replaced the burned edifice with a fine brick structure. Rev. Patrick Cronin is the present pastor.

In the Town of Royalton, St. Stephen's Church, at Middleport, was founded about 1860, when a small edifice was built. In 1875 this church was replaced by a larger one, purchased from the Presbyterians, who formerly worshiped there. This church was attended by priests from Medina until 1882, when Thomas Ledwith was placed in charge and built a pastoral residence. He was followed by Rev. James J. Roche about 1885; Father Roche remained there about twelve years, and in the course of his long pastorate made great progress, and added many valuable improvements to the property. Rev. Thomas B. Milde is the present pastor.

A church was built at Gasport in the late sixties, and for a number of years was attended from Newfane, and since 1882 from Middleport.

NIAGARA UNIVERSITY.

Niagara University, on Monteagle Ridge, in the Town of

Lewiston, dates back to 1855, when Rev. J. J. Lynch, C. M., afterward Archbishop of Toronto, established the Seminary of Our Lady of Angels on the Niagara River, about two miles below Suspension Bridge. On May 1, 1857, Father Lynch secured funds to purchase an old inn which stood on the highest point of Monteagle Ridge, and opened the institution on that date. On April 20, 1863, a charter was obtained. Several priests were associated in the management and the Seminary began to prosper. On December 5, 1864, the building was nearly burned to the ground, one student perishing in the flames. Prompt measures were adopted for rebuilding, Pope Pius IX, contributing \$1,000, and the Seminary reopened with 150 names on the roll in September, 1865. At that time only one wing of the present main building was completed. In 1866 the main structure, with a front of 214 feet, was erected; in 1868 another wing was added. In 1874 the building of the college chapel, 78x120 feet, was commenced and soon finished. The buildings are handsome stone structures. In 1883 the institution was erected into a university, under the name of Niagara University, by the Regents of the University of the State of New York; its original name and individuality, however, are still preserved in the Department of Arts and Theology. In 1883 a medical department, located in Buffalo, was organized.

The present officers of the institution are the following:

President—Very Rev. W. F. Likly, C. M.

Director of Seminarians—Rev. P. J. Conroy, C. M.

Librarian—Rev. L. A. Grace, C. M.

Vice President and Treasurer—Rev. J. P. Cribbins, C. M.

Prefect of Studies—Rev. J. A. Tracy, C. M.

Prefect of Discipline—Rev. A. V. Lyden, C. M.

Assistant Prefect of Discipline—Rev. J. J. Corcoran, C. M.

Episcopal Church.

BY WILLIAM F. FABER.

The first services of the Episcopal Church in Niagara County appear to have been held in 1823. The entire State was until 1838 included in one Diocese; and missionaries were sent out from the City of New York to the villages and new settlements in these parts. The Right Reverend John Henry Hobart, D. D., third Bishop of the Diocese of New York, visited Manchester (as Niagara Falls was called up to 1840) in 1829, holding a service, but not confirming; his successor, the Right Reverend Benjamin T. Onderdonk, S. T. D., soon after his consecration in 1830, confirmed eight persons in "the parish of Christ Church, Niagara Falls." This was the first confirmation in the County. The same bishop also visited Lockport, laying the cornerstone of Christ Church, in Lower Town, August 19, 1831, at which time he confirmed six persons; and consecrated that church August 18, 1833. On August 12, 1838, he consecrated Grace Church, in Upper Town; the following day he ordained the Reverend H. Cressey to the Priesthood in Christ Church. In September, 1836, in August, 1837, and in August, 1838, he confirmed in all nine persons in Grace Church. The records of his confirmations in Christ parish, if any—beyond the bare statement that on August 19, 1831, six were confirmed—have been lost. And the visitations just noted were, we may safely say, the only ones of these Bishops of New York to this most remote part of their great Diocese.

In 1838 the Diocese was divided, and the new Diocese of Western New York erected, extending as far east as

Utica. The Right Reverend William Heathcote De Lancey, D. D., LL. D., D. C. L., was its first Bishop, with residence at Geneva. The Right Reverend Arthur Cleveland Coxe, D. D., LL. D., became in 1865 his coadjutor, and on his death, a few months later, his successor; in 1868 the Diocese was again divided, Bishop Coxe retaining the jurisdiction of the western half—under the same title—extending as far east as Seneca Lake. Upon his death, in 1896, the Right Reverend William David Walker, D. D., LL. D., D. C. L., was chosen as his successor.



WILLIAM F. FABER.

The Episcopal Church at the present time has the following parishes in Niagara County: St. Paul's, Lewiston; Christ, Lockport; Grace, Lockport; Trinity, Middleport; St. Peter's, Niagara Falls; Epiphany, Niagara Falls; St. Mark's, North Tonawanda; St. John's, Youngstown. Churches without parish organization: All Saints, Lockport, and St. Andrew's, Olcott, missions of Grace Church, Lockport. St. Peter's, Niagara Falls, has a mission at Echota, and St. Mark's, North Tonawanda, one at Gratwick—both as yet without buildings. St. Luke's, Royalton, began as a mission in 1839, organized in 1840, became extinct in 1855. St. Ambrose's is the chapel of De Veaux College, Niagara Falls, the Rev. William S. Barrows, chaplain.

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, LEWISTON.

The first resident missionary was the Rev. J. M. Robertson, soon after whose arrival the parish was organized, January 16, 1832. The cornerstone of its church was laid July 23, 1835. The first recorded confirmation was by Bishop De Lancey, in 1856.

The early records of the parish are meagre. Frequent changes, with intervals when there was no clergyman at all, when services were suspended for a time, could not fail to work discouragement. With a congregation necessarily small in numbers, the problem of supporting a rector was not an easy one.

Nevertheless, the parish survived, and the work has gone on, and still lives, with abundant reason for encouragement and hope. At the present it is again joined with St. John's, Youngstown, under the care of one rector for both parishes. It has a beautiful little church and a band of faithful people. The number of communicants in the last printed report is eighty-three.

Among its rectors and ministers-in-charge have been

the following: Rev. A. C. Treadway, 1845-1852; Rev. T. W. Russ, 1853-1856; Rev. J. H. Haven, 1861; Rev. G. M. Skinner, 1867; Rev. G. W. Knapp, 1878-1881; Rev. J. S. Seibold, 1882-1886; Rev. E. Stewart-Jones, 1887-1890; Rev. James Roy, LL. D., 1890-1891; Rev. John Evans, 1891-1895; Rev. D. C. Monroe, 1900-1902. The present rector is the Rev. J. H. Herendeen.

CHRIST CHURCH, LOCKPORT.

Christ Church is the older of the two parishes in Lockport; its organization took place probably in April, 1831, though its certificate of incorporation bears the date September 28, 1832.

In the summer of 1830 the rector of Batavia, Rev. Lucius Smith, held the first Prayer Book service in Lower Town. In February, 1831, Rev. David Brown of Albany settled there as missionary. As already stated, the old church was begun in 1831, and consecrated in 1833. In July, 1834, Rev. Orange Clark became rector, and remained two years. He laid the foundations for good, permanent work in the future. During the four years of the rectorate of Rev. Ebenezer H. Cressey great progress was made; there were sixty-four baptisms and forty-four confirmations; a "female school" also was organized, of which no further record remains. It was at this time that Washington Hunt, later Governor of the State, was confirmed, who till his death was a veritable pillar in the Church.

The name of Rev. Orlando F. Starkey, rector from 1849 to 1855, will always be associated with the building of the present church, a remarkably fine example of early English architecture, of which he received the inspiration while abroad.

During the incumbency of Rev. Albert Lewis, 1861-1863, Rev. James Albercombe, D. D., 1863-1874, and Rev. Frederick S. Hyde, 1874-1877, the parish received large accessions by baptism and confirmation. Dr. Abercrombie built the picturesque rectory, harmonizing so well with the church.



ST. ANDREWS THE LAKE.

The Rev. George W. Southwell followed in 1877, and during eleven years rendered the parish efficient and faithful service. He it was who built the Parish House, "Walbridge-Hunt Memorial," thus completing a fine group of church buildings. But the decline of Lower Town as a residence district, the removal or death of many of the old supporters, has made it increasingly difficult to maintain the work financially. In 1894 the Rev. William F. Faber, rector of Grace Church, assumed charge of this parish also, and a year later became its rector, associating with himself,

as "Vicar of Christ Church" in 1896 the Rev. G. Sherman Burrows, and in 1899 the Rev. Eugene J. Babcock, who at present has the pastoral care of the congregation.

The parish has now 100 families, and 149 communicants.

GRACE CHURCH.

Grace Church antedates Christ Church by its first organization, February, 1829, under the Rev. Burton Hickox. But this first organization lapsed, leaving no record save that of two baptisms.

The church people of "Upper Town," however, rallied to another effort, and on February 9, 1835, formed an organization which has come down to the present as "the rector, church wardens and vestrymen of Grace Church, Lockport, New York." At the meeting the Rev. Orange Clark of Christ Church, "Lower Town," preached; rendering generous assistance also by holding service till a clergyman could be secured. These services at first were in the long room over George H. Boughton's store, near the present Kenmore Hotel. A wooden church was soon built, on the site of the present St. Mary's Church; consecrated August 12, 1838, by Bishop Onderdonk; and used for some fifteen years, when the growth of the congregation required a larger edifice. It was then, in 1852, under the rectorship of Rev. Charles H. Platt, that the present site, corner of Cottage and Genesee streets, was purchased; the cornerstone laid May 2, 1853, and the church consecrated, by Bishop De Lancey, August 12, 1857.

The vestry records of all these years afford continuous evidence of the heroic struggle involved in carrying the burden of building and current expenses, from the erection of the wooden church in 1836 to the completion of payments for the stone church in 1857. But rectors and people showed an indomitable spirit; and when the house of worship had been completed as to the bare necessities, they continued, and are still continuing, its enrichments within and without. A rectory was secured by the Rev. Lawrence S. Stevens (1866-1870); a Guild founded by Rev. Foster Ely, D. D., in 1877, which in twenty-five years has raised over \$28,000 for various improvements and works of beneficence; Rev. Charles W. Camp secured the erection of the Parish Building in 1887, at a cost of \$12,000, and in 1892 an organ fund of some \$6,000. During the incumbency of the present rector, Rev. William F. Faber, stained glass windows, mosaics and other memorials have been added, greatly beautifying the church, at a cost of \$6,000; besides the erection and furnishing of two new churches; and St. Andrew's, Olcott, of which separate accounts follow.

The growth of Grace parish in membership has been continuous; the parish church counts in its present congregation about 350 families, and 577 communicants. It has had ten rectors.

ALL SAINTS' CHAPEL.

"The building of a free church or chapel in the southeastern part of the city" was one of the projects of the Rev. Charles G. Gilliat, rector of Grace Church 1870-1875; The project was long in abeyance; but received fulfilment in the summer of 1896, when All Saint's Chapel was erected at the corner of Vine and Walnut streets, and opened November 1, all paid for, costing, for land, building and furnishing, about \$2,400. The nucleus of this sum was a legacy of the late Ambrose C. Beverly, amounting to \$1,000; the remainder was almost entirely the contribution of Grace Church people. The services were held by the rector of Grace Church and the vicar of Christ Church, and a congregation

gathered, and a Sunday school; the work grew so rapidly that two years later the chapel was enlarged at an expense of over \$1,000, and again at once paid for. The Rev. G. Sherman Burrows, removing to St. Mark's, North Tonawanda, was succeeded by Rev. F. N. Bouck, and he by Rev. Herbert H. H. Fox, present "vicar of All Saints." A vicarage has now been purchased, immediately adjoining the chapel. All Saints' is now a fully equipped church, active and zealous, and hopeful for the future. It has sixty families and eighty-four communicants. It has no parish organization, being under the corporation of Grace parish, but in its work and worship it is a distinct church.

TRINITY CHURCH, MIDDLEPORT.

In 1864 the clergy of Medina and Lockport began holding services in Middleport. Two communicants resided there; others became interested; the Rev. George W. Southwell was invited to take charge of the work, and began his labors January 1, 1865. In January, 1866, he was able to report eighteen communicants.

On May 31, 1869, Bishop Coxe laid the cornerstone of a church for the parish, which had been organized August 1, 1866, under the name of "Trinity." The church was not consecrated till April 25, 1882; January 14, 1884, it was destroyed by fire. But on November 14, 1884, Bishop Coxe formally opened a new church, beautiful and complete, which had risen on the ashes of the old.

It is a distinction of this parish that it possesses a useful theological library, of service to the clergymen, to lay readers, and to any intelligent churchman—the gift of the priest who founded the parish and served it so long and so well, the Rev. George W. Southwell.

During the incumbency of Rev. G. W. S. Ayres (1889-1893) and of Rev. H. S. Gatley (1894-1900) the parish grew in numbers and strength; and under the present rector, Rev. Frederick Hall, the good work is going on most happily. A rectory has been built lately, which adds to the efficiency of the parish equipment. There are seventy families and 118 communicants.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, NIAGARA FALLS.

Reference has been made above to "the parish of Christ Church, Niagara Falls," organized at "Manchester," January, 1829. The population fluctuated; a number of different missionaries and clergymen held occasional services; for long periods there were no services at all. December 28, 1846, "St. Peter's, Niagara Falls," was organized. Presumably the old "Christ parish" was legally extinct. The Rev. A. C. Treadway was rector; one of the church wardens was Judge Samuel De Veaux, the founder of De Veaux College. A church was erected, and the first service held therein July 16, 1848; it was consecrated by Bishop De Lancey, May 3, 1853.

During the rectorate of Rev. O. F. Starkey, 1863-1869, the parish purchased a brick building to be used as a school for young ladies, under the name "The Jerauld Institute." The old church becoming inadequate, a new site was obtained in 1872, the cornerstone laid by Bishop Coxe Ascension Day, 1873; and the new church consecrated All Saints' Day, 1880. It is a splendid edifice, and magnificently located. The parish has a fine rectory; and a guild house recently completed is one of the finest in the Diocese.

The last printed report gives number of families, 389; communicants, 353.

The Rev. George Rosenmueller, in February, 1896, began holding services in the suburbs of Echota. A prosperous mission has grown up, and his successor, the

present rector, Rev. Philip W. Mosher, hopes in the near future to erect a chapel.

CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY, NIAGARA FALLS.

"Suspension Bridge" dates back to 1857. In that year services were begun by professors of De Veaux College, at first in private houses, and successively in stores and in denominational churches rented for that purpose. In the fall of that year a parish was incorporated, and its first parish election held on Epiphany, January 6, 1858, which gave the church its name. The first rector was Rev. Henry F. Nye, of De Veaux College, in 1862.

The cornerstone of the church was laid by Bishop Coxe, August 3, 1864; it was completed December, 1866, and consecrated by Bishop Coxe June 29, 1868. This good work was begun and completed under the rectorship of Rev. W. W. Walsh. The building is an exquisite bit of early English architecture.

For a considerable period the church was again dependent on the clergy of De Veaux for its services. The Rev. H. S. Huntington's rectorship, 1886-1892, followed a series of short incumbencies, to the great benefit of the work. The present beloved and efficient rector, Rev. James Roy, LL. D., who succeeded in 1893, has given the parish a still longer service. A guild house and rectory have been added, completing the church buildings.

Epiphany Church has 116 families, and 178 communicants.

ST. MARK'S CHURCH, NORTH TONAWANDA.

This parish was organized February 17, 1869, as "St. Mark's Church, Tonawanda, Erie County, New York." The history of the work in Erie County, going back to occasional services there as early as 1840, does not here concern us. A wooden edifice was in 1871 erected on a lot at the corner of Marion and Tremont streets, North Tonawanda, the lot being donated by George W. Sherman, warden, on the condition that the parish name should remain unchanged. The building cost \$2,500; was later, in 1893, enlarged at a cost of \$3,000, while Rev. Evan H. Martin was rector. In April, 1896, the parish was incorporated in this county.

In December, 1899, the Rev. G. Sheman Burrows became rector; under his leadership the parish is growing rapidly in numbers and in religious power. He has charge of St. James' Mission in Tonawanda, with a chapel of its own, and of cottage services at Gratwick.

St. Mark's has about 175 families and 190 communicants.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, YOUNGSTOWN.

Youngstown depended for some years upon Lewiston for its services; from 1861 services were held with more or less regularity by the clergymen of that parish. In 1866 Bishop Coxe held his first confirmation; in 1867 another, and in April, 1868, a parish was organized.

In 1878, owing largely to the zeal of members of the garrison at the fort, a lot was secured for a church. Bishop Coxe laid the cornerstone May 16, 1878, and on September 28 of the same year consecrated the church.

For a number of years a joint rectorship was maintained with St. Paul's Church, Lewiston, and this is the present arrangement, as stated above.

Dependent, as Youngstown is, upon the garrison, its population is fluctuating. The latest printed report gives number of families in the parish fifty-seven; number of communicants, fifty-three. The Rev. J. T. Herendon is rector.

ST. ANDREWS BY THE LAKE.

Youngest among the Episcopal Churches of Niagara County is St. Andrew's, Olcott.

The Rev. Charles W. Camp held occasional services in the village during his rectorate of Grace Church, Lockport (1885-1893), having a summer cottage at the lake. His successor continued them, not regularly at first, but statedly in 1900 and 1901.

A lot being donated by a parishioner, three others promising together \$1,200, it was deemed safe to make a beginning. Plans were drawn for a small stone church; Bishop Walker laid the cornerstone September 8, 1901, and consecrated the church St. Andrew's Day, November 30, 1901.

The church is a memorial to the late Right Reverend Arthur Cleveland Coxe, D. D. LL. D., D. C. L., from 1865 to 1896 Bishop of Western New York. The aim was to make it such a church, in its architecture, its furnishing and its location, as well as in its mission in "one of the next towns" (whither he was always bidding the church go out) as would have pleased him. So generous has been the response of the people of Grace Church, Lockport, that over \$5,000 has been expended upon it, of which less than \$200 has come from outside of Lockport.

There is no resident clergyman; services are given by the Lockport clergy. On May 1, 1902, Bishop Walker confirmed a class of sixteen, making nineteen communicants. A growing congregation is faithfully upholding the services and assuming responsibility for the work.

Methodist Church.

BY REV. S. A. MORSE, D. D.



Macaulay speaks of Methodism and its work as "a most remarkable moral revolution." However any may disagree with this characterization, there is certainly no room for questioning the zeal and heroism of the early representatives of the Wesleyan movement. They share, in common with those of other forms of Christian faith, the glory of making the American moral wilderness blossom like the rose. As to this particular corner of the great, new field there is no record of the presence of Methodism within its borders until after the war of 1812-14. To the south of us there were circuits formed; and as early as 1807 Peter Van Nest and A.

Jenks were appointed to the Holland Purchase. At this time a "class" was formed in the town of Newstead, near Akron, which is said by the great historical authority of American Methodism, Dr. Abel Stevens, to have been the first class formed west of the Genesee River. Buffalo, Black Rock, and other nearby places, figure in the early church records, but we have no definite report of Methodist preaching within the present bounds of Niagara County until several years later. To be sure the term "Niagara District" is not infrequent in the minutes of conferences, but its application was to territory across the river in the British province. The Reverend Gideon Lanning, who was appointed to the New Amsterdam (Buffalo) circuit in 1813, describes his territory as extending from Batavia to the Niagara River, and from the mouth of the Tonawanda to some twenty miles south of Buffalo. This pioneer, at General Scott's request, preached to the American army "on the green at Buffalo" in 1814 just before it crossed the Niagara to fight the battles of Chippewa and Lundy's Lane.

But so far as we have testimony from the records the Gospel as proclaimed by Methodists was not to spill over upon us from the South, but was to come directly from the East. In 1816 there were four circuits west of the Genesee River, and one of these, a new one, was called Ridgeway, and which covered, doubtless, all of the present Niagara County and much more. Two years later (1818) the Reverend Zachariah Paddock was appointed, with Reverend Parker Buell, to this field. They crossed the Genesee River at Rochester, and came westward by the Ridge Road a search for their charge. They ran into it unexpectedly in the town of Murray, Orleans County. The Ridgeway circuit extended then from Clarkson Corners, east of Murray, to the Niagara River on the west—a distance of full sixty miles—and taking in, on an average, about eight miles on each side of the Ridge Road, "the north side being little else," Mr. Paddock says, "than an unbroken forest, without roads, quite down to the shore of Lake Ontario." (See Conable's History of Genesee Conference.) To go round this charge required a ride of nearly 300 miles; each preacher delivering forty-five sermons every four weeks, or over eleven sermons per week. Several appointments were added to the circuit during the year 1818, according to the custom of Methodism in those days. Otherwise how could it grow?

But the honor of hewing out in the rough this Ridgeway Circuit belongs to the Reverend Daniel Shepardson, who, during the years 1816-17, traversed the region from the Genesee River to the Niagara. Doubtless this man must be credited with the founding of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Lockport. Once in four weeks he swung round to that center, preaching at a school house two and a half miles east of the city, and also at Warren's Corners. "Precisely where the City of Lockport now stands," says the Reverend Zachariah Paddock, writing of his experiences in the year 1818, "I got down from my horse under the shade of the trees, gathered nuts, read my Bible, and prayed and prepared for my appointment some eight or ten miles away. There was not, probably, a single house within a mile of the spot."

The heroic itinerants went thus from settlement to settlement, preaching in cabins where they could be secured, and in more pretentious places as they sprung into being, until Methodism covered the land, coming to be at length—so James Schouler, the historian, declares—"emphatically the church of the American common people."

The difficulties encountered by the pioneer preachers were not alone those arising from pioneer conditions, and

the natural antagonism of the human heart to religious truth. There was also opposition, and sometimes real persecution, from those of other religious "persuasions," and Methodism had to fight its way to the front in Niagara County as in other places. Interdenominational comity is a reality now which scarcely had a foreshadowing then. In those days Ephraim envied Judah and Judah vexed Ephraim, each seeking to

"Prove his doctrine orthodox

By apostolic blows and knocks."

To the Methodist the Calvinist slandered God by the "decrees," while to the Calvinist the Methodist was the representative of a dangerous Pelagianism which dishonored God's sovereignty, and taught a monstrous presumption—that a man might know that his sins were forgiven. And so on round the list of contending sects. An instance or two may help us to understand denominational relationships of that day, and better to appreciate present conditions. Reverend Mr. Paddock, before quoted, relates for Conable's History of Genesee Conference, some experiences of an unpleasant nature. He says that the Methodist Episcopal Church, and its ministers in particular, were regarded as "blind leaders of the blind." At Lewiston, then the west end of Ridgeway Circuit, every effort was made to keep the circuit riders out of the little academy, which was about the only place in which a meeting could be held by any denomination. The Reverend Mr. S., pastor of the ——— Church, and by no means a bad man, would find himself under the necessity of changing his appointment from one hour in the day to another so as to meet some special emergency, but generally in such a way as to keep out these Methodist interlopers. By the time the itinerant had changed the plan of his circuit so as to harmonize with the new state of facts, the Lewiston wheel would turn back again, thus necessitating another change in the plan of the circuit, or obliging the Methodist preacher to take a belligerent attitude, which he was reluctant to do.

A few years later, years of much Methodist expansion in the territory, there appeared in the Boston Recorder and Telegram (October 19, 1827), an anonymous article complaining of the religious destitution existing in the towns of Niagara, Porter, Wilson, Newfane and Pendleton. The writer declared that they were all destitute of the ministrations of the Gospel from any denomination, though these sheep scattered about were famishing for the bread of life. The Reverend Wilbur Hoag was then in charge of the Lewiston Circuit, which embraced the towns specified. He flew to the defense of his work. Among other things he said: "It is true that these towns are destitute of regular ——— preaching. But what of that? Are they therefore heathen? If it were made certain that neither the Methodists nor the Baptists were embraced in the phrase 'every denomination;' that their preaching was not a 'ministration of the Gospel;' their meetings were no 'public means of grace;' their doctrines were shameless error;' if they (the preachers of a given denomination) were the only ministers of Christ, and their doctrines the only food which could preserve Christ's sheep from 'hungering and famishing;' if they were the ministers with whom wisdom should die, and all others were 'the folly of foolishness,' I would not have controverted the statement which they have given of the above-named towns." Mr. Hoag then goes on to show the work done by the Methodist preachers in the towns named, declaring that there were thirty-nine sermons preached by Methodist preachers in the five towns each month, besides stated preaching in Porter and Newfane by the Baptists.

These are specimens of the religious amenities of those crude and rude days. Doubtless the discourtesies were not all on one side. They rarely are.

Let us be thankful that "the thoughts of men are widened with the process of the suns," and that now there is a real denominational sympathy and co-operation unknown to the fathers.

And still there is room for improvement.

Figures exponential of growth are always interesting, always provided we do not have too many of them. "Figures," said Bailie Nichol Jarvie, in *Rob Roy*, "is the only true demonstrable root of human knowledge." Let the following figures speak of the work of Methodism in the territory under consideration:

In 1818 Ridgeway Circuit had 331 communicants, and probably not a single church building or "preacher's house." By 1833 Lockport alone had 199 communicants; Middleport, 532, and Lewiston, 357.

Some of the statistical items given in the minutes of the Genesee Conference for the year 1901 are: Communicants, 2,532; Sunday School enrollment, 3,414; number of churches, 27; parsonages, 15; church property, \$151,600; cash salaries paid, \$15,126; benevolences, \$3,243.

It should be noted that from 1855 to 1865, and even later, the Methodism of this region was much disturbed and weakened by the discussion, and ecclesiastical trials, resulting in the organization of the body known as Free Methodists, now an earnest and respectable denomination, though not of rapid growth. An earlier company of seceders took the name of Wesleyan Methodists, and they now constitute an excellent company, though comparatively few in numbers, of the Methodist contingent of Niagara County.

Niagara County has always been a portion of the Methodist territory known as Genesee Conference, since the organization of that conference in 1810. Up to that time, so far as the region had any recognition at all, it was a part of the Susquehanna, and, later, the Genesee District of the Philadelphia Conference. After 1807 till 1810, when the new conference was born, it was known simply as Holland Purchase Mission. The new conference seems to have continued the name Susquehanna as the appellation of the district, with Gideon Draper for its Presiding Elder. There were two other districts and Presiding Elders in the infant conference, namely, Cayuga District, William Case in charge; and Upper Canada District, Henry Ryan in charge. Ryan was a mighty man, though erratic. He has representatives still in the Methodist field, Bishop Charles H. Fowler, of Buffalo, being a grandson. The Reverends H. Ryan, Griffin and Sumner C. Smith, all of whom were pastors in various places within Niagara County, the first-named having been also presiding elder, were grandsons of Henry Ryan. They were sons of Isaac B. Smith, also a Methodist preacher within the bounds of the county, and whose remains lie in the cemetery at Pekin. In 1821 the alien name Susquehanna was retired and the name Erie took its place, and the famous Glezen Fillmore took his conspicuous position at the head of the district. Any place would be conspicuous where he was, for "where he sat was always head of the table." But, in 1825, the name Erie in turn gave way, and the district was called Buffalo until the year 1844, when, with Samuel Luckey at its head, it was given its present and proper designation, Niagara. Some of the chief men of Methodism have been connected with this territory in one capacity or another. The Seagers, Micah and Schuyler; Israel Chamberlayne; "Chapter-and-verse Puffer;" Eleazer Thomas, killed in the Custer massacre; John B. Went-

worth, Sanford Hunt, Thomas Carleton, James E. Bills, E. E. Chambers and many besides, were strong men and lifted up axes upon the great trees with mighty results. Of the thirty or more who have held the responsible post of presiding elder, aside from the present incumbent, the Reverend M. R. Webster, D. D., there remain exactly a half dozen, the oldest of whom is the Reverend William Scism, the only one who resides now within the bounds of Niagara County. The others have gone over into the unseen holy. "They rest from their labors and their works do follow them."

Presbyterian Church.

BY REVS. ROBERT NORTON AND ERASTUS W. TWICHELL.

The churches that comprise Niagara Presbytery were originally planted by missionary labor. Western New York, and Ohio, as well, are indebted to the Connecticut Home Missionary Society. This organization is the oldest of all kindred organizations on this continent. It was formed in 1774, and formally incorporated in 1788. Its efforts were wisely conducted, and most fruitful in results.

It may be noted at this point that the Connecticut church was Congregational. Such it was, in name, while, in fact, it was more than semi-Presbyterian. Its platform was unanimously signed in 1708 by "The United Ministers, for-



REV. ROBERT NORTON.

merly called Presbyterian and Congregational," and remains unchanged at the present date.

The spirit of commingling and co-operation has always marked our churches, and none are ashamed of their ancestry, or the State that nourished their infancy.

They were a little tardy in the formation of their Presbytery, but moved vigorously when the best time had arrived.

EARLY DAYS OF THE PRESBYTERY.

In 1823 they were organized, and in 1824 their first meeting was convened at Gasport. Rev. David Smith, pastor at Lewiston, was moderator, and preached from Nehemiah ii: 20: "The God of Heaven, He will prosper us; therefore, we, His servants, will arise and build." Ever since the organization was secured the spirit of fraternity and co-operation has held sway. The older churches were in the farming towns, and they held their ground with a firm

grasp. Lockport was just rising into notice, while these country towns were firm and vigorous long before the trees were cut on her now busy Main Street.

The year when Presbytery organized was the birth year of the first Presbyterian Church of Lockport. Meantime the church of the Second Ward was in embryo, and was not fully organized till a somewhat later date.

This was a period of the greatest political and financial unrest. Party spirit was fierce, both in theory and action. The great conflict over slavery brooded above us like a storm cloud. In the very midst of political furor, and the crash of financial schemes, the spirit of God breathed upon us the hush of revival power.

There were faithful pastors in our churches, but in a special way Dr. William C. Wisner came to the forefront.



REV. ERASTUS W. TWICHELL.

His pastorate of forty-two years began with sweeping revivals, both in city and country. At first he was pastor of the Second Church of Lockport. During his first five years much of his time was spent in evangelistic work among other churches. Financial disaster almost wrecked the Second Presbyterian Church of Lockport. Very reluctantly they consented to the removal of Dr. Wisner to the First Presbyterian Church of the city, and thus began his longest pastorate of over thirty years. To describe Dr. Wisner is impossible. His natural physique was most unfortunate. His infirmities were severe; and yet God's grace wrought triumphs through him, and thousands were won for Christ. His wisdom as a pastor was equalled only by his wisdom as a Presbyterian leader. His advice was sought on all sides, and he made few, if any, mistakes. It was an era of controversies, and his co-presbyters always found him a safe leader. He won their hearts while guiding their policy. He lived to see and rejoice in the reunion of the divided forces of the Presbyterian Church.

Niagara Presbytery has maintained a steady but substantial growth for seventy-nine years. The numbers of its churches has doubled. Instead of seven we now number fourteen. The drift of population has been from the smaller to the larger towns and cities. Some of the strongholds of spiritual life have weakened, while others have largely grown in numbers and strength. They have a vigorous and devoted ministry, and they are sending forth their sons to build up new churches in the mighty West, even as

they themselves were begotten from the bosom of Puritan New England.

Lewiston has the oldest church building, which was commenced in 1820, when the walls were built and roofed. In this building, without windows or "slips," the church worshipped for some time, and it was not completed until after 1825. Lockport Second Presbyterian Church has the next oldest building, which was erected in 1837. Both of these buildings are of stone and stand in outline essentially the same as when built, though inside changes and improvements have been made. They are both types of pioneer architecture.

THE FOURTEEN CHURCHES.

The Indian Church at Tuscarora is the oldest of all the Presbyterian churches in the county. In 1806 it had seven members. It was the fruit of missionary labor among the Indians, and has been sustained largely by the Foreign and Home Missionary Boards of the Church, and has always been small in numbers. During the last years considerable progress has been made; a new church edifice has been built and the membership is fifty-six. Samuel Jacobs was for years the great man in the church. He was a real type of his race, humble and lowly, and yet a wonderful man. He acted as elder and deacon and sexton, and he preached, as he said, "the best he could." He was always at the meetings of the Presbytery, and Presbytery always honored him by an offering for his expenses and a little more. Even if his words were few, and even if he did often fall asleep, his presence was highly prized. He died in 1898, full of years and good works.

The Presbyterian Church at Lewiston is the oldest of all the other churches except that of the Indians. It was organized in January, 1817. Aaron Childs and John Robinson were the first elders. In September, 1818, Rev. David M. Smith was ordained and installed pastor of the church, and thus the church had the first regularly installed pastor of eleven years, and was a leader in all the work in the Presbytery. He was influential in organizing the church at Wilson and the First Church of Lockport, and also the church at Cambria and Niagara Falls First Church. He was the first Moderator of Presbytery. (It should be noted that the old Presbytery of Niagara was organized in 1817, and included all of Western New York, and that when the Presbytery was divided Buffalo in some way claimed to be the original Presbytery, and retained the books, though it was generous enough to give us the name.) This church has always been one of the sound and substantial churches. In 1898 Rev. L. G. Marsh closed his pastorate of seventeen years. At present the church is ministered to by Rev. J. W. Ross, of Rochester, and has 112 members, with 133 in the Sunday School. Total contributions in 1902 were \$2,774.

The Presbyterian Church of Wilson was organized January 18, 1819, in the house of John Holmes. There were only six members. John and Daniel Holmes were ordained elders. The first religious services were held in a school house, in 1817, when John Holmes called the neighbors together, and after prayer and singing he read a sermon from the text, Romans i: xvi. These services were continued and resulted in the organization of the church. The first church building was erected in 1834, at the cost of \$2,500. This edifice was twice enlarged, and finally burned July 10, 1894. In the winter of 1834-5 Deacon Holmes went to West Troy and brought home in his sleigh a church bell which weighed 700 pounds. It was rung at the dedication, Feb-

ruary 12. The Sunday School was organized in 1820 and has never taken a vacation. The Woman's Missionary Society was organized over seventy years ago, and still continues its good work. Undoubtedly this Woman's Missionary Society is by far the oldest missionary society in this part of the State, and, perhaps, in the State. Rev. G. W. Hubbard, who now resides in Albion, had the longest pastorate, seven years, from 1860 to 1867. For many years this church was one of the strong village churches in the county. Four missionaries and seven ministers have been sent out from the congregation. A modern and substantial brick church edifice, which cost \$8,000, was dedicated in December, 1898. Rev. E. L. Tiffany is the stated supply of the church. There are eighty-two members, 179 in the Sunday School, and last year the total contributions were \$1,349.

Lockport First Presbyterian Church was organized in January, 1823, with thirty members. In September of the same year the Sunday School was organized in the log school house, where the services were then held. Very soon a church edifice was erected on the lot where the Court House now stands. About 1830 a "commodious" brick church was erected on the corner of Church and Ontario streets. In 1855 this was torn down and the present large auditorium was built, at a cost of over \$20,000. The chapel and Sunday School rooms were built in 1876, at a cost of \$12,800. As the fruit of the remarkable revival of 1842-43 120 united with the church at one time. In 1869, after the Hammond meetings, 218 united in one day. These revivals gave the church its standing and influence. Most of the strongest lawyers and business men in the city became members of the church. Few churches can name four such pastors as Dr. William C. Wisner, J. N. Freeman, Maltbie D. Babcock and Anthony H. Evans. Rev. B. M. Nyce, who is a worthy successor of these worthy men, has been pastor of the church six years. The present membership of the church is 792, with 593 in the Sunday School, and total contributions of \$8,600.

The Youngstown Presbyterian Church was organized in 1823, with six or eight members. The village at that time consisted of about a dozen houses, three of which were taverns. In September, 1837, the church edifice, which cost \$2,600, was dedicated. The growth of the church was such that it was necessary to enlarge the building in 1843. In 1897, at a cost of over \$7,000, the edifice was rebuilt and the plan changed, giving a beautiful and modern church edifice. This church has sent forth five of her sons into the ministry. Rev. D. H. Rohrabough is the stated supply of the church, which has ninety-six members, with 130 in the Sunday School and the contributions \$1,281.

Somerset Presbyterian Church was organized January 26, 1824, in the house of Stephen Sherwood. Services were held in the rooms over the store of James Matthews and in the school house until the church was dedicated, in 1840. In 1860 extensive repairs were made, and in 1878 the Thayre memorial chapel and parlors were added to the front of the original building. In the great revival of 1842 all the children in the Sunday School over 12 years of age became members of the church. Rev. G. W. Newman is the present minister of the church, which has forty-seven members and seventy-five in the Sunday School. Contributions, \$882.

Niagara Falls First Presbyterian Church was organized April 2, 1824. The stone church edifice, which is still in use (the plans are perfected for remodeling and enlarging it), was built in 1849, at a cost of \$8,000. The chapel was

built about twenty-five years ago, and cost \$5,000. Albert H. Porter was an elder from September, 1831, till his death, January 3, 1888. Rev. A. S. Bacon has ministered to the church over twelve years, which is the longest pastorate in the history of the church. The membership is 468, with 412 in the Sunday School, and contributions of \$5,012.

Lockport Second Presbyterian Church was organized January 29, 1832, with twelve members. The church edifice cost \$5,000. The history of the church recounts a long series of brave struggles against great difficulties. In 1846 the church edifice was sold on mortgage, but on December 30, of the same year, the church was reorganized under the name of The Second Ward Presbyterian Church, and the property was transferred by the purchasers to the new society. For years the church and Sunday School were small, but in 1854 Dr. Helmer became superintendent of the Sunday School, and under his zealous work, with the active assistance of Horatio Kilborne, better days came. Dr. Helmer continued his efficient work forty-four years, which evidently is a longer term of service than any other Sunday School superintendent in the county has been able to give to the work. In 1858-61, and again in 1877-93 (with the exception of two years), Rev. Robert Norton was the self-denying and devoted pastor. He is still the esteemed friend of the church, and to him the church owes much. Under the ministry of Rev. E. P. Marvin, 1865-1877, the church had its greatest prosperity, and a goodly number were added. Since June, 1897, Rev. E. W. Twichell has been the pastor. The present membership of the church is 100, with 207 in the Sunday School, and total contributions of \$1,295.

Middleport Presbyterian Church was organized June 11, 1833. The church edifice was erected in 1845. By removal of many of the members, the people became discouraged during the war and no services were held. Finally the building was sold by Presbytery to St. Stephen's Roman Catholic Church. In 1888 the church was reorganized with thirteen members. The proceeds from the sale of the old church were appropriated toward building a new edifice, which was completed and dedicated in January, 1889. Rev. J. C. Mechlin has been pastor of the church nearly five years. The present membership is forty, with ninety in the Sunday School, and contributions \$527.

Mapleton Presbyterian Church was organized in 1846, and the church edifice was erected soon after. It was formed in part by members from the two old churches of Pendleton and Chalmers. It is one of few churches which has succeeded in a purely country parish. Rev. H. C. Chadsey has been pastor of the church nearly eight years. The membership is fifty-eight, with sixty-six in the Sunday School. Total contributions \$704.

Wright's Corners Presbyterian Church was organized in 1872, and the substantial brick edifice was erected about the same time. This church is the fruit of the labor of Rev. E. P. Marvin, who was its minister until 1888. Rev. J. Emory Fisher is now the stated supply. The membership is forty-five, Sunday School ninety-two, and the contributions \$906.

Calvary Presbyterian Church of Lockport was organized in 1878. This church also is the fruit of the labor of Rev. E. P. Marvin, who ministered to it until 1892. Rev. Newton Wray is now the stated supply. The membership is eighty-four, with 140 in the Sunday School, and contributions \$814.

North Tonawanda Presbyterian Church was organized in 1891, and has had a rapid growth. In 1898 an excellent

church building and parsonage were erected. Rev. Duncan Cameron is pastor of the church, which numbers 313, with a Sunday School of 310, and total contributions of \$6,285.

Pierce Avenue Presbyterian Church of Niagara Falls was organized in 1893. Rev. E. D. Hardin is the pastor of the church, which has 119 members, with 274 in the Sunday School, and total contributions of \$1,409.

Baptist Association.

BY REV. LOUIS J. GROSS.



The history of the Niagara Baptist Association begins with the history of the pioneers of Niagara County. They sought a home in the wilderness, but they thought also of "a better country, even an heavenly." A "Baptist meeting house" would be erected almost simultaneously with the log cabin which sheltered their families. From the minutes of the Association I am able to gather the following history of the Association, necessarily greatly condensed.

At a meeting of ministers and brethren, chosen as delegates from Porter, Cambria (later Lockport), Somerset, Hartland, Royalton, Yates, Gaines, Barre and Shelby churches, assembled at Hartland, June 21, 1823, it was "voted that the several churches represented be, and the same are hereby organized into an association, to be known by the name of the 'Niagara Baptist Association.'" The constitution of the Genesee Association, of which these churches were originally members, was adopted, and the Association voted to meet annually in June. At the time of its first anniversary the Association numbered nine churches and 339 members. Twenty years after its organization twenty-four churches were connected with it, with a membership of 2,628.

In February, 1844, nine churches, at their request, were dismissed for the purpose of forming the Orleans Baptist Association, viz: Albion, Alabama, Carlton, Gaines and Murray, Knowlesville, Medina, Shelby and Yates. This reduced the Niagara Association to thirteen churches, with a membership of 1,462.

The Association has been blessed with gracious revivals. Seven hundred and thirteen baptisms were reported in one year, and upwards of 6,000 were added to the churches by baptism during the first half century of the Niagara Association.

In common with the teachings of the Baptist denomination the Association has always showed a deep interest in the course of missions and education. When the churches were small, the members poor and the country new, they not only struggled to maintain the Gospel at home, but also in the "regions beyond."

The Association early showed itself an uncompromising foe to intemperance. It denounced slavery, and when the storm of Civil War broke over the land many of her choicest sons enlisted in defense of their country's flag.

It would be gratifying to write in detail of some of the "fathers and mothers in Israel," but space forbids. We wish, however, to mention Rev. H. P. Hunt, pastor for forty-three years of the Clarence Baptist Church; also Hon. Burt Van Horn, for many years moderator of the Association; also Pastors Morrison, Fenney, Pettit, Wilson and Walker.

The last meeting of the Association was held June 18-19, 1902, with the First Baptist Church, of Niagara Falls, in their new edifice, erected at a cost of \$25,000. The gathering was one of the largest in the history of the Association.

Looking outside the Niagara Association we learn that "during the last fifty years our denomination in the State of New York has made great progress in numbers. In 1850 we had 810 churches; in 1900 we had 934. In 1850 we had 744 ministers; in 1900 we had 953. In 1850 we had 81,509 church members; in 1900 we had 150,875. During this same half century, Baptists have increased yet more in the country at large. In 1850 we had in the United States 9,549 churches; in 1900 we had 42,893. In 1850 we had 7,385 ministers; in 1900 we had 28,409. In 1850 we had 801,770 members; in 1900 we had 4,141,995. While the population of the country has increased a little more than three-fold, Baptists have increased between four and five-fold."

During the past ten years—1890-1899—the average number of additions to Baptist churches by baptism alone has been over 167,000 per year, or more than 450 per day, or equal to four new churches of over 100 members each for every day of the past ten years.

Baptists have in the United States a church property of about \$90,000,000, and the denomination has property in educational institutions valued at \$41,000,000.

The officers of the Woman's Baptist Home and Foreign Missionary Societies of the Niagara Association are as follows:

President—Mrs. William Elgin, Akron.

Vice President—Mrs. M. B. Comfort, Newfane.

Recording Secretary—Mrs. R. B. Hull, Clarence.

Foreign Missionary Secretary, Mrs. L. J. Gross, West Somerset.

Home Missionary Director—Miss Jennie Metcalf, McNall's.

Junior Secretary—Miss Edith Bague, Lockport.

Treasurer—Mrs. Charles P. Rignall, Lockport.

The officers of the Baptist Association are:

Moderator—Rev. H. P. Klyver, Lockport.

Clerk and Corresponding Secretary—Rev. L. J. Gross, West Somerset.

Treasurer—Bennett Eaton, South Somerset.

The present pastors of the churches are as follows:

William Elgin, Akron; Frank Mt. Pleasant, Sanborn; D. R. Davies, Johnson's Creek; Louis J. Gross, West Somerset; C. J. C. Scholpp, Wilson; A. F. Bowling, Niagara Falls; J. W. Johnson, Ransomville; A. Lindsay, Royalton; M. B.

Comfort, Newfane; A. G. Wall, East Clarence; H. P. Klyver, Lockport; Rev. C. A. Cole, Niagara Falls.

Every one of the thirteen churches in the Association, save one—Sanborn—has a settled pastor, or regular supply, and the Niagara Association, though "little among the thousands in Judah," has abundant reason to "attempt great things for God and expect great things from God."

Congregational Church.

BY REV. GEORGE A. BROCK.



The Congegational denomination, while not very powerful in Niagara County, has nevertheless a very interesting history, and a very bright prospect for the future. There are but five Congregational churches in the county, these being located at Cambria, Gasport, Niagara Falls, and Lockport (two), with a membership of about 1,200. The explanation of this scarcity of churches of this denomination along the Niagara Frontier is found in the amicable settlement made between the Presbyterian and Congregational churches early in the Nineteenth Century, whereby over 300 Congregational churches in New York State were turned over bodily to the Presbyterians. Allowing for normal growth, these 300 churches number today up into the thousands.

In spite of this handicap, which turned over the immigration of the New England Congregational churches into the Presbyterian Church, and made it a powerful organization throughout the State, the Congregationalists were the first to organize a church in Niagara County.

THE FIRST CHURCH.

When the Legislature of New York State created Niagara County (which included the present County of Erie), in 1808, there was but one town within its borders, the town of Cambria. As early as 1817 Rev. David M. Smith called together six of the residents of this town—Josiah Owen, Susan Owen, Thomas Chamberlain, Jonas Chamberlain, Rachel Mills, and Hannah Crocker—and organized ecclesiastically the First Congregational Church of Cambria. The Holland Purchase Company donated 100 acres of land to this church because it was the first to organize a religious society in the county. This tract of land, afterwards exchanged for the present property, is situate west of Lockport, near the Gulf. This church was organized legally by the Hon. Robert Fleming, of the Court of Common Pleas,

in 1821. Until 1836 meetings were held in school houses and dwellings. On March 1 of that year a church building was dedicated on the present site; in 1878 the present building was occupied and dedicated.

The first settled pastor was Rev. Silas Parsons, 1827-1831. The longest pastorate was that of Rev. E. Parmely, 1845-1856. The church recently celebrated its eighty-fifth anniversary, and under the leadership of the Rev. John W. MacCallum, is strong and sturdy, exercising a wide influence for miles around.

BEGINNINGS AT LOCKPORT.

The second Congregational Church organized in the county was the First Congregational Church of Lockport. This church was brought into existence in consequence of division of opinions among members of the First Presbyterian Church upon the slavery question, and also on matters of church polity. About forty dissenters met June 7, 1838, and under the leadership of Rev. H. G. Nott, of Buffalo, organized the First Congregational Church of Lockport. For a while meetings were held on Main street, the Rev. William Bacon supplying the pulpit. The next year a committee selected a location on the corner of Niagara and Church streets as the site for the new church. On January 12, 1840, the congregation met for the first time for religious services within its walls. The society had grown from forty to 150 in this short time. November 2, 1854, was a dark day for the church, as the edifice was destroyed by fire, and only \$1,000 of insurance was available. The society, however, rallied nobly and within a week had secured financial support sufficient to warrant an immediate rebuilding of the church edifice upon a larger scale. The following January (1855) meetings were held in the chapel of the present edifice.

Of the many godly and worthy men who have occupied the pulpit of this church since its organization, special mention might be made of Rev. Joseph L. Bennett, who had the longest pastorate; Rev. J. W. Cooper, D. D., and J. W. Bailey, recently called to Fort Wayne, Ind., after ten years of most successful labor. The church today numbers about 450 members, and is enjoying a season of marked prosperity under the leadership of Rev. G. W. Gallagher.

IN NIAGARA FALLS.

Next in order of organization is the First Congregational Church of Niagara Falls (formerly Suspension Bridge). Here again Congregationalism was the pioneer. Under the leadership of George Watson there was organized July 3, 1853, in the brick school house, what afterward became the First Congregational Sabbath School. Shortly after this, principally through the earnest work of Harry P. Witbeck, the first religious society in the village of Suspension Bridge was organized, and on June 19, 1854, incorporated according to the laws of New York State.

March 15, 1855, James Vedder generously gave to the society a site for the church edifice, and on the 27th of the same month the church was formed with eight members. On September 10 the cornerstone was laid, and on September 25 the first pastor, Rev. J. O. Knapp, installed. At this installation Rev. James H. Dill, father of the present pastor, gave the right hand of fellowship.

The church was finished and dedicated October 29, 1857, entirely free from debt. Since its organization, in 1855, there have been fourteen pastorates. Rev. C. M. Bartholomew served the church for nine years, the longest pastorate and the most successful in the history of the church. Many new problems confront the church today, owing to the

transitional character of Niagara Falls into a great manufacturing center. The present pastor, Rev. Arthur Cushing Dill, is well equipped by wide experience to lead the church during this crucial period.

EAST AVENUE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

During the pastorate of Rev. Edward B. Furbish over the First Congregational Church of Lockport certain differences of opinion upon matters of church discipline arose among the church members, which eventually led to the withdrawal of fifty-seven members in April, 1890. These protestants resolved to organize a new Congregational Church in the eastern part of the city, on East avenue, to be called the East Avenue Congregational Church of Lockport. At a council, called on April 17, and presided over by Rev. Frank S. Fitch, D. D., of Buffalo, the new organization was formed and accepted into Congregational fellowship. On April 20 the first preaching service was held in Adkins Hall, which for the time became the headquarters of this new and vigorous society. The East Avenue Church is the youngest of the five Congregational churches in the county, and the most aggressive.

The present site on East avenue was purchased for \$5,000, and the present commodious and beautiful chapel, erected at an expense of about \$20,000. On June 14, 1892, the chapel was dedicated. During the financial panic of the nineties the struggling people had all they could do to meet their heavy financial obligations. But by great heroism and self-sacrifice they succeeded not only in holding their own, but actually reduced their indebtedness by several thousands of dollars. At last their brave efforts have been rewarded, and the future is full of promise and hope. The membership is about 250. Many of the charter members are still in active service, but the strong men who organized the church have nearly all "passed over."

The first pastor was Rev. Herbert P. Brown, under whose supervision the chapel was constructed and dedicated. Rev. J. W. Tate was his successor. In May, 1899, the present pastor, Rev. George A. Brock, a Niagara County lad, began his work. A heavy debt has been successfully and speedily financed; there have been nearly 100 additions to the church, and just at the present time the society is expending \$2,500 on the building of a new front and interior decorations, which will make the East Avenue Chapel one of the cosiest and most useful religious edifices in the City of Lockport.

One of the striking features of this church is the large and flourishing Bible school, which has been for many years under the efficient and successful superintendency of George B. Thompson, who is one of the best known Sunday School workers in New York State.

Lutheran Church.

BY REV. H. J. WATKINS.

The Lutheran Church of Niagara County dates its existence from February 20, 1837, when the first church organization, being English, was effected in Lockport under the pastorate of Rev. John Selmsier, missionary of Hartwick Synod, New York. The organization at that time took the name of the German Lutheran and Reformed Church, but it was reorganized as early as March 9, 1837, under the corporate title of "Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Town of Lockport," which name was changed May 30, 1889, to "First English Lutheran Church of Lockport." The first church was built of brick, 60x44, on the triangular park op-

posite the now electric depot, and was torn down and rebuilt on the present site, corner of Locust and Walnut streets, the work being completed July 1, 1849, at a cost of \$2,800, besides old material and donations of labor. On June 12, 1887, the church celebrated its jubilee, observing services for a week, under the auspices of the different so-



REV. H. J. WATKINS.

cieties. The pastors from the organization of the church to the present time have been fourteen, viz:

- Rev. John Selmsier, 1836 to 1845.
- Rev. Nicholas W. Goertner, 1845 to March 4, 1847.
- Rev. Edward Meyer, May 23, 1847, to the fall of 1847.
- Rev. Thomas Lape, February 24, 1848, to April, 1850.
- Rev. H. L. Dox, June 30, 1850, to May 26, 1855.
- Rev. H. W. Luckenbach, Oct. 1, 1855, to Oct. 1, 1857.
- Rev. P. A. Strobel, January 25, 1858, to August 1, 1860.
- Rev. H. L. Dox, April, 1861, to March 1, 1863.
- Rev. S. R. Griffith, November 25, 1863, to Dec., 1865.
- Rev. M. Ort, September 1, 1867, to September 1, 1874.
- Rev. D. M. Moser, July 16, 1875, to June 1, 1879.
- Rev. W. B. Thompson, August 1, 1879, to April 1, 1880.
- Rev. Philip Graef, July 11, 1880, to May 1, 1883.
- Rev. H. J. Watkins, September 29, 1883, up to the present time.

Rev. W. B. Tomlinson died after a brief, but successful, pastorate of but eight months.

Since September, 1883, the congregation has grown from eighty members to 240. Besides the running expenses, since 1883, the congregation has spent, for church and street repairs over \$3,500, purchased and placed in the church a pipe organ, bought a fine parsonage, and paid into the benevolences of the Synod over \$8,300.

The church in Lockport has a property valued at over \$12,000. The doctrinal basis of the church may be judged by the "doctrinal position" stated in its constitution, adopted by the congregation May 30, 1889, viz:

- 1.—The existence of one God.
- 2.—The trinity of the Godhead.
- 3.—The Deity of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- 4.—The universal depravity of man.
- 5.—The Saviour's vicarious sufferings and death.
- 6.—The justification of the sinner by faith in the Son of God.
- 7.—The necessity of the Holy Spirit to regenerate and sanctify the soul.
- 8.—The one holy Catholic (or universal) church.
- 9.—The divine institution of the ministry, baptism and the Lord's supper.
- 10.—The necessity of repentance and good works.
- 11.—The return of Christ to judge the world in righteousness.
- 12.—The resurrection of the dead.
- 13.—The immortality of the soul.
- 14.—The everlasting blessedness of the righteous.
- 15.—The eternal punishment of the wicked.

A church south of Lockport, known as the "Brick Church," now St. Paul's English Lutheran, has a membership of twenty-three, and with the Lockport church at one time formed a strong pastorate. Some three years ago \$500 was spent in refitting the building. This organization and the Lockport church are the only English Lutheran churches in the county in connection with what is known as the "General Synod North," a body representing 200,000 members.

The history of the German Lutheran Church of the county is distinct from the English, more in church polity than in doctrine, and comprehends the history of three synods.

EVANGELICAL MISSOURI SYNOD.

About fifty-four years ago a large number of Prussians migrated to this country, landing in Buffalo, whence a number came to Niagara County, forming their first congregation at Bergholtz, then organizing churches at Wolcottsville and Martinsville. This synod has now in the county fourteen congregations, nearly every one of which has, in addition to its church building, a parsonage, a cemetery, a home for the school teacher, and a school building in which the regular parochial school is held, taught by a regularly employed teacher.

The following church statistics are given with a great deal of completeness:

	MEMBERS	*SOULS
Bergholtz—Rev. O. H. Restin,.....	.....	800
Martinsville,—Rev. P. Lowe,.....	.....	800
Wolcottsville—Rev. C. Lohrman,.....	.....	800
Wolcottsburg—Rev. W. Weber,.....	.....	800
Niagara Falls—.....	240	.....
North Ridge and Wilson—Rev. E. J. Hahn,	250	1500
St. Johnsburg—Rev. F. Engelbert,.....	150	800
Lockport—Rev. A. E. Michel,.....	115	700
Co. Line and Lake Road—Rev. O. Mappes,	33	250
North Tonawanda—Rev. A. Hering,.....	.....	.....
N. Tonawanda (Eng.)—Rev. A. T. Bonnet,	40	.....
Newfane—Rev. W. Strathman,.....	40	300
Pekin—Rev. C. Frankenstein,.....	20	.....
Gratwick—Rev. T. Andree,.....	50	.....

* "Souls" means all that have been baptised, including infants.

Besides these regular congregations there are mission stations at Hartland Corners, Lewiston, Youngstown, Middleport and High street, Lockport.

The churches that have no Sabbath Schools have what are called "Kinter Lehre," where children and parents are gathered together and the children are all taught the Bible truths by the pastor alone, in the presence of the parents. All the churches of this "Missouri Synod" cling closely to

the Word of God as the "only infallible rule of faith and practice." They all practice close communion, and put great emphasis on their opposition to all secret organizations.

BUFFALO, OR GRABAU, SYNOD.

A small synod of Germans in the county is called the Buffalo, or Grabau Synod. The difference between this synod and the "Missouri synod" is found probably in the fact that the revolt of Rev. Grabau and his friends was founded upon his claim that the divine rights which the congregation claimed belonged to the pastor alone. The polity of the church of this synod, therefore, is more of a hierarchial nature, its head, called the "senior ministerii," being located, at present, at Bergholtz. The synod has churches at Bergholtz, with a good sized membership; at Wolcottsville; its largest church, served by Rev. Knuebel; a church at Niagara Falls, Rev. Nemeshe, pastor; also one at County Line; here also and at County Line are mission stations, served by Rev. Saban.

GERMAN VEREIN UNITED SYNOD.

The "German Verein (United) Evangelical Synod of North America" has six congregations in the county, the largest of which is "St. Peters," Lockport, organized July 8, 1865. In 1864 the church building was erected, on the corner of South and Locust streets. In 1883 the tower was built, and a spacious Sunday School room was added in 1885. The congregation has a membership of 110 families. Connected with the church are the Ladies' Aid Society, forty members; Sewing Circle, sixteen members; Christian Endeavor, twenty members. Services are held in both German and English. The present pastor is Rev. Paul E. Zeller, who has served the congregation with great ability since September, 1899. The property of the congregation consists of the church edifice, parsonage, janitor's dwelling and a fine cemetery on Niagara street. With the exception of a few hundred dollars St. Peter's church has no debt.

Other churches of the Synod in the county are:

Friedents, North Tonawanda, Rev. H. Haupt, pastor, 108 members.

St. Paul's, Shawnee, Rev. H. Haupt, pastor, 42 members.

St. Paul's, Wendelville, Rev. J. Stilli, pastor, 95 members,

St. Stephen's, Middleport, Rev. J. Stilli, pastor, 20 members.

St. Peter's, North Tonawanda, Rev. F. Hhanzumt, pastor, 58 members.

The General Body to which these churches belong has a membership of 922 pastors, 1,153 churches, a publishing house, two secretaries, several Orphanages and Deaconness' Homes, and a mission in India.

Besides the above Lutherans, there have been in existence a couple of independent congregations in the county, called by the name of "Allrecht's Brueder," but of their present existence and work I am unacquainted.

Universalist Church.

BY REV. OTIS F. ALVORD

The doctrines of Universalism have been preached in Niagara County from a very early day. Some of the older members of the denomination put it as far back as 1810. Services were held in the County Court House before the first Universalist Church was built. The church at Middleport was constructed in 1841, and the church at Lock-

port in 1843. The Niagara Association of Universalist Churches was formed seventy years ago, this year celebrating its seventieth anniversary. Thus it will be seen that the Universalist denomination is one of the oldest in the county.

The preaching of the doctrines of this church began because of the revolt from the harsh preaching of the Calvinistic faith a century ago. Many ministers were loth to leave their ecclesiastical associations, but a few from some of the older religious bodies espoused the newer faith, and being unable to propagate it in their old connection, withdrew and traveled throughout the country, preaching wherever opportunity offered. At first churches were organized slowly, and the preaching was more or less intermittent.

From data at hand, which has been rather hastily collected, the Middleport church would seem to have been the first church formed in the county. It was built, as has been stated, in 1841. Services have been continued, practically uninterrupted, up to the present time. Of late years there have been somewhat frequent changes in the pastorate. Since 1882 the following pastors have served the church: Rev. E. Hathaway, 1882-85; Rev. T. C. Druley, 1886-89; Rev. W. A. Pratt, 1891; Rev. W. I. Towsley, 1892-94; Rev. Alonzo Chase, 1895; Rev. R. T. Sawyer, D. D., 1896. Rev. G. A. Kratzer, the present pastor, began his pastorate in 1898. The membership of the church today is 139. There are 130 members of the Sunday School, and the valuation of the property is \$12,000.

The church at Lockport was built two years after that at Middleport, in 1843. In its earlier years it was an exceptionally flourishing and powerful organization. Among the pastors at that time were Rev. William Bunker, Rev. William B. Cook, Rev. J. J. Austin, Rev. Charles F. Lee, Rev. Richmond Fiske, Rev. Mr. Baker, Rev. H. B. Smith (brother of B. N. Smith and P. M. Smith, of Lockport,) and Rev. S. G. Davis. Since 1882 the following pastors have served the people: Rev. H. A. Westall, 1882; Rev. J. H. Farnsworth, 1883; Rev. F. A. Gray, 1884-87; Rev. G. W. Powell, 1888-92; Rev. T. B. T. Fisher, 1893-95; Rev. J. A. Copeland, 1896-97; for the next two years the church was

without a stated supply. Rev. A. U. Hutchins was the minister in 1900, and Rev. Otis F. Alvord, the present pastor, began his labors in 1901.

The brick church at Olcott was erected in 1858. It has been in past years a strong and flourishing organization. Since 1882 the records show the following pastors served the church: Rev. C. C. Richardson, Rev. F. A. Gray, Rev. W. I. Towsley, Rev. F. B. Peck (who died in 1893), Rev. C. F. Paddock, Rev. J. A. Copeland, Rev. A. U. Hutchins and Rev. Otis F. Alvord. For the past four years the pastor at Lockport has held services Sunday afternoons at Olcott and looked after the spiritual interests of the congregation.

The church of Cambria was built in 1868, on the North Ridge. During the pastorate of Rev. B. Brunning the remaining debt on the church was paid off, Mr. Brunning announcing the fact on the occasion of the last sermon that he preached. During most of the recent years the pulpit has been supplied by preachers from Lockport or Olcott. At present Mr. Alvord holds services there every alternate Sunday.

The church at Niagara Falls was organized in 1889. Rev. H. P. Morrell, of Grace Church, Buffalo, representing the New York State Universalist convention, held services there, first in a hall, later in the parlors of the International Hotel, and finally a chapel was fitted up on Main street. Mr. Morrell was assisted by Rev. L. M. Powers, of the First Universalist Church of Buffalo. In May, 1902, a call was extended to Rev. De Witt C. Reilly, who was ordained July 15 following, and immediately started on his pastorate under favorable auspices. Although the church has been organized since 1889, Mr. Reilly is the first settled pastor of the church, the congregation having been ministered to by preachers from neighboring cities.

Besides the foregoing denominations whose history has been recalled, the Christian Scientists and the Dunkards are represented in the county by organized bodies. There may be other denominational organizations in the county, but diligent inquiry has failed to bring forth facts concerning them.

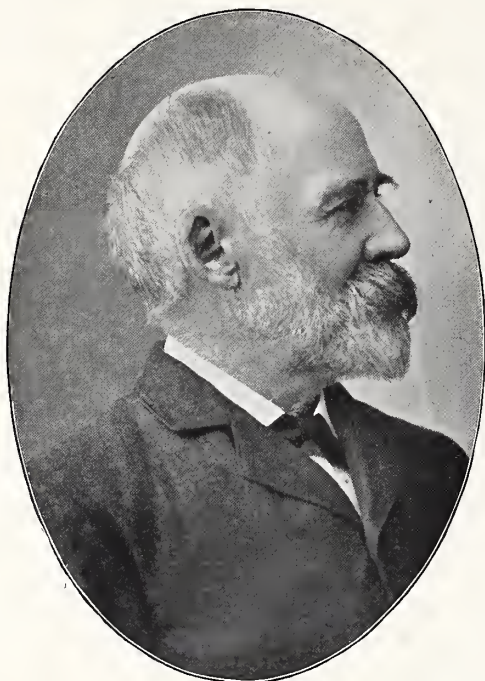


SCENE ALONG EIGHTEEN-MILE CREEK.

Schools of Niagara County.

BY JAMES ATWATER.

EARLY acquaintance with the schools of Niagara County dates from the spring of 1838, when I came here from the eastern part of the State. The common schools, at that time, were, with few exceptions, the only available means of education open to the masses of the people. Instruction in these schools was confined exclusively to the three Rs, and in some cases English grammar and geography.



JAMES ATWATER.

The affairs of each district were managed by three trustees, elected at school meetings, held annually. To them was intrusted the entire charge of the schools, except that they could not impose a tax, not voted at a meeting of the legal voters of the district. Subject to this restriction, they built school houses, employed teachers, levied taxes for incidental expenses, such as fuel and repairs, the tuition and books of indigent pupils, and made the apportionment of rate bills, based on daily attendance of pupils whose parents, or guardians, were deemed able to pay.

The amount charged each pupil being based on the ratio of his attendance to the aggregate attendance of the whole school (except indigent pupils), it will be readily seen that a premium was offered for irregular attendance, and there were no truant officers in those days to look after delinquents.

The schools of each town were subject to the superintendence of three inspectors, generally lawyers, sometimes ministers, occasionally farmers, but rarely, if ever, teachers. They examined and licensed the teachers, apportioned the public school moneys received from the State among the several districts, considered and decided appeals from the acts of trustees, and occasionally visited the schools under their jurisdiction.

The schools, in the country districts, were usually kept open about three or four months in summer, and three

months in winter. Winter schools were always taught by men, and summer schools, usually, though not always, by women, some of the more wealthy districts employing men both winter and summer, seeming to prefer their teaching to that of women.

The wages paid men in country districts varied in the eastern counties of the State from \$10 to \$12 per month, and in Niagara County from \$13 to \$18 per month. Women, in most cases, received from \$1.50 to \$2 per week. In addition to these munificent salaries both men and women were boarded free—"boarding round" the district. This practice continued, in most instances, until the adoption of the free school law in 1869. The teachers swept the school rooms, built the fires (being lucky if they did not have to saw the wood), wrote the copies, made and mended the quill pens (the only ones in use), and assisted the trustees in making out the taxes and rate bills. The districts usually covered considerable territory, and "boarding round" was sometimes a little burdensome.

The writer recalls, that while teaching in a large district in the Town of Royalton, in the winter of 1839-40, he had to hear a large grammar class after school hours (his pupils numbering sixty to seventy daily, of all grades from the alphabet to English grammar), go in one instance two and one-half miles to board, entertain the family during the evening, and have breakfast early enough in the morning to get back two and one-half miles to school before it was light enough to see, to write copies. But "boarding round" had its bright side also. As a rule the teacher lived on the "fat of the land," and not unusually he was asked to defer his visit until after the annual "killing." He was brought into close contact with the parents and patrons of the school, which was a great help to him. It was a good system for those early times; but has passed away never to return. Such was our school system, and such its administration up to about the year 1840.

Up to the year 1845 Lewiston and Wilson are believed to have been the only incorporated academies in the county. In 1842 a school, called the Middleport Academy, was established, mainly through the efforts of the Rev. E. B. Sherwood, who was at that time very influential in Western New York. The first teachers were D. M. Lindsley, a graduate of Union College, and Miss Margaret Baldwin, who were well equipped for their work, and attracted quite a large number of young men and women from neighboring towns, as well as the villages. There are some now living in the county who gladly testify to the high character of the teachers and the excellence of the school. At about the same time there was a school at Royalton Center, called Royalton Academy, which did its share in promoting the cause of education. There was also a Female Academy at Lockport, located on "Court House Square," under the care of Mrs. Wilson and the Misses Whiting and Bennett, women of rare qualifications and great influence as educators, and who afterwards became teachers in Lockport Union School. There were also select schools in Lockport, taught by Moses Richardson, James B. Chase, and others; and Da-

vid Crandall, who, it is said, once had a story telling match with Abraham Lincoln, and came out ahead, taught a select school in Pekin. It is believed, however, that these were none of them incorporated, and they all ceased to exist at about the time the Lockport Union School was started.

Lewiston Academy, as has been stated, was the first academy in the county chartered by the State, and we have great pleasure in giving its history, as furnished us by our old and dear friend, Rev. Joshua Cooke, who was a part of it, and writes from genuine love of that old institution, which was for a long time the pride of the pioneers. He gives us also some things connected with the earlier schools of Lewiston, as leading up to the academy, which will be of interest. Our only regret is that our limited space will not allow us to publish Mr. Cooke's extremely interesting letter in full:

LEWISTON SCHOOLS.

"The school system of Lewiston took its rise in one of the finest tributes to educational need that the writer has known. Immediately after the War of 1812, as every building in the town had been burned by the British and Indians, except one stone building that would not burn, in retaliation for the wanton and barbarous burning of Newark by Col. McClure, on his evacuation, all had to be rebuilt on the return of the inhabitants from their flight. As, at that time, Lewiston was the County Town, and the Erie Canal and Lockport had not been thought of, the old town gathered to itself the men who became the leading men of the county—Bartons, Hotchkisses, Cookes, Townsend, Hopkins, Robinson, Millar, and others; business men, lawyers, doctors, farmers, of the most stalwart and determined kind; their burned homes had no sooner been rebuilt than they turned their thoughts to a school and school house for their children. Before 1820 the old stone school house, near the site of the present academy, was built, and for many years used as the one hope and pride of the people for their children. It was a square stone building, of two stories; about twenty-four feet square; for many years the second story was used for Sunday religious services, conducted by such ministers of different denominations as, in the spirit of the Master, 'went about, doing good,' in that day of poverty and wilderness.

"In that old stone school house were laid the foundations of education for men who, in after days, were to be leaders in the community, and pioneers of settlement and education in 'the regions beyond.' The old house ought never to have been removed. When its day was over, it should have been reverently enclosed with iron railing, and been left, its own monument of good done to all the country around; untold in records, but of value untold, also, to hundreds who lived to bless its memory. The names of its teachers should have been hung on a tablet, that all could read and see, in honor to the faithful teachers of the pioneer days—Fitzgerald, Carpenter, Fairchild, Chamberlain, Owen—how glad would the writer be to stand, with bared head, and drop wreaths of gratitude on your graves today. Alas! the last one left to do so, even if your graves were known. For aught the writer knows this was the first school in Niagara County, for it was immediately after 1815, when the war closed. Then came the wonder of those days, the old Lewiston Academy. At large personal sacrifice, it was started in 1824—four stories, 60x40 feet, and 50 feet in height. The Masonic fraternity, at its own request, put on the fourth story, for lodge purposes, and so used it. It was started under Rev. David Smith, a Presbyterian cler-

gyman, and merged into a school of the Lancasterian system, under two most excellent and faithful men, Messrs. Allen and Montgomery.

"In 1830 came a man from Dartmouth College, to take charge of the academy, whose advent was one of the shaping events for education in this county. That man was Jacob Hook Quinby. To the thorough cultivation of a graduate of Dartmouth, he united a personal magnetism that was, for all scholars under him, an inspiration and a charm. His very smile was an inspiration, and his verbal approval was a prize to study for. To have a defective recitation to him seemed almost a crime. This was the man, and this was the school for two years. Let the reader bear in mind that at the time Niagara Falls, Wilson, no other town in the county had an academy, and Sullivan Caverno had not come to Lockport to organize its High School, and watch over it as a mother over her child. The three Rs were the extent of our district school teaching, and here, all at once, before the bright boys and girls of 10 to 17 years, lay a new untrodden field. Algebra, Geometry, History, Chemistry, Natural Philosophy, and even Latin! Pupils came to the old school from far and near. Lockport sent Mortimer M. Southworth, Parks, Chapin and Molyneux; Buffalo and Canada sent their contingents, and the academy became a graduation for district school scholars.

"In 1832 came Sullivan Caverno. Lockport and Niagara County afterwards knew him well. He was a well-taught man—faithful in teaching, but somewhat severe. He was lame from a shortened limb, and used a slight iron frame under one foot to make it even with the other, and he should not be judged harshly if sometimes irritable. The writer, in this connection, recalls the words of that almost saintly man, Gen. O. O. Howard, who said to an assembly, one day, pointing to his armless sleeve, 'A man who has lost a limb always feels himself an imperfect man—a mutilated man.' Under the two years of Mr. Carveno, the writer of these lines may be permitted to say, was laid the foundation of studies, to be afterward followed up in college, in a law office, and in a Theological Seminary. His name is one for deepest debt with me.

"Next came Sherburn B. Piper, and all Western New York knows him—an admirable teacher for scholars that would learn, but not much admired by stupid or careless ones, and the old school kept its standard to the full under Mr. Piper.

"Then came Moses H. Fitts and Reuben Close. By this time academies were starting up all around. The tide of population flowed elsewhere, and the old school waned and died. A fine addition was afterwards made to the building, but the school could not be revived. They who taught it are dust, but the old walls stand over the dust, a monument and a memory. It would be improper to omit stating that the teaching of Laura Dunbar (afterward Mrs. Ralston) and Margaret Baldwin was fully on a par with that of the male principals who have been mentioned. They are both gone; the few, very few, of their many pupils, scattered over the whole Union, now gray-haired women themselves, hold their names in the most affectionate and grateful recollection."

As the question of the first school in the county has been raised, we add a subsequent note sent us by Mr. Cooke:

"In 1806 a school was taught by a Scotchman, named Watson, and in 1807 continued by Jonas Harrison, one of the two attorneys already in Lewiston. Perhaps there

were earlier ones elsewhere, but I doubt it. The school was kept in a log house, in the other end of which a family lived."

WILSON SCHOOLS.

Soon after Mr. Fitts came to the Lewiston Academy, Wilson Academy was founded in November, 1845. Benjamin F. Wilcox, Jr., was the first principal; David H. Davis, assistant principal, and Miss Elizabeth Merritt, preceptress. J. G. O. Brown, now of Wilson, says: "Messrs. Wilcox and Davis remained eleven years, and left a decided impression upon the generation of pupils placed under their care. Prof. Davis passed away but a few weeks ago, at the home of his daughter in Owosso, Mich., aged 82 years. This school was one of the pioneer schools of the county, and it has been the aim of the trustees to make it worthy of the patronage and success it has received. Until 1869 it was supported by tuition and public money, received from the State. At that time it was reorganized as a Union Free School. The present edifice, built two years ago, cost \$12,000. Many who have been teachers there have taken high places in the schools of our land, and from the pupils there are ministers, lawyers, and doctors in all parts of the country."

Up to the year 1845, Lewiston and Wilson were the only incorporated academies in the county. Wilson Academy, from the start, was very popular. It was largely patronized by Lockport, all the middle and western towns of this county, with many students from other counties, and from other States. It drew largely from the former support of Lewiston Academy, which was one of the chief causes of the decline of that institution. Wilson Academy had become the "proper thing;" the beautifully shaded streets of the village were so traversed by students, from far and near, that they seemed like "Academic Groves." Lewiston could not stem the tide, and Wilson took on the airs of a college town, from which she has hardly yet recovered. Messrs. Wilcox and Davis must have been remarkable men. It was observed at the Farmers' picnic two years ago that Mr. Davis then, after long years of absence, a visitor to the county, was all the time the center of an admiring group of his former pupils.

SCHOOLS OF NIAGARA FALLS.

The records of the Town of Niagara show that a school was organized under the provisions of an act for the establishment of common schools throughout the State (passed June 19, 1812), some time in 1814 or 1815. Parkhurst Whitney, George Burger and Garritt Van Slyke were appointed school commissioners. In 1816 Augustus Porter, Silas Hopkins, and George Rogers were elected school commissioners, and G. Pierce, Parkhurst Whitney and Joseph Pettit, school inspectors. And it was voted that \$20 be raised for the use of common schools. The above named gentlemen served the town for several years.

In 1819 Judge De Veaux was made a commissioner, and served as such several years. At his death he left most of his fortune as an endowment to De Veaux College, a splendid monument to his memory.

In the early records of the schools the name Parkhurst Whitney occurs oftener than any other.

In the year 1830 ninety-seven children attended the school in District No. 2, and in addition to \$44.50 public money, \$148.23 was paid for teachers' wages. In 1840 the school reached 180, and the public money \$154.93. The first teachers whose names appear on the records were A. Thomas and a Mr. Jerauld, the latter receiving the munificent sum of \$80 for four months' service. The schools grew

rapidly in numbers and importance, new and enlarged accommodations being furnished.

In 1848 James F. Trott was elected a trustee, and from that time to the day of his death the history of the schools was also his personal history. Nothing pertaining to the schools escaped his notice. The management of schools was left almost entirely in his hands. He was always interested in teachers' institutes and associations. In personal appearance he always reminded the writer of the pictures of Benjamin Franklin, and he seemed to have the mental characteristics of that great man.

Niagara Falls ought to erect a monument to James F. Trott, in memory of the self-sacrificing work he did for her schools.

March 21, 1853, the Union Free School law was passed, and in January, 1855, by a vote of the inhabitants, a Union Free School was established. James F. Trott, William Samway, Goodell S. Ware, H. H. Stearns, William H. Childs, and Joseph M. Clark were elected at the first Board of Education. Mr. Trott was made president; Mr. Clark, secretary, and Mr. Ware, treasurer. J. W. Barker was employed as principal, and a Miss Balis as assistant. It is noted that Mr. Barker received a salary of \$700 per year, and Miss Balis \$16 2-3 per month.

Miss Caroline Clark was employed as a teacher in 1837, and served continuously for thirty years. Mr. Barker was very active and influential in school matters throughout the county and State. He afterwards became one of the editors and proprietors of the Lockport Journal.

In 1885 the Academic Department was established and placed under the visitation of the Regents of the University.

Since then the prosperity of the schools has been phenomenal. New school houses have been built, efficient superintendence established, and the schools have kept even pace with the growth and prosperity of the city. From the first recorded attendance of thirty-seven children in the year 1820, the attendance in 1897 had grown to 3,451. The teachers from one to seventy. Nathaniel L. Benham, who was connected with the schools from 1884 until the time of his death, Aug. 3, 1891, had done more for the upbuilding of the schools than any other educator. He was well and favorably known throughout the State. The establishment of a Central High School was one of his ambitions, which was never fully realized. A model building for this purpose is now nearly completed, which will be the pride of the citizens and a goal for the ambitious students of the growing city.

The foregoing sketch is condensed from a history prepared by the late Superintendent Benham, and furnished me through the courtesy of the present popular and efficient superintendent of the Niagara Falls schools, R. A. Taylor.

SCHOOLS OF NORTH TONAWANDA.

The writer has been unable to obtain any history of the early schools of North Tonawanda. The earliest teachers known to him were William Gritman, D. S. Pitcher, Jonas W. Brown, and A. D. Filer, of whom the first three, either before or after, served as school commissioners, and all of whom did excellent work at Tonawanda. Mr. Filer had previously taught with great acceptance at Middleport. He was a painstaking, conscientious, and thorough organizer. In connection with B. F. Felton, president of the Board of Education for the last twenty or twenty-five years, he inaugurated the present system of ward schools and planned the buildings, which are considered models, worthy of universal imitation. The Felton High School, recently

completed, is one of the finest school buildings in the State. In addition to the usual academic departments it has thoroughly equipped departments, for manual training, cooking and sewing.

The splendid and costly equipments of these departments were donated by A. C. Tuxbury, and are a splendid monument to his liberality. Superintendent Frank J. Beardsley, Principal H. S. West, and their assistants, are said to be doing most excellent work. About fifty-five teachers are employed in the system. To show the liberality of the people of North Tonawanda in support of their schools, it may be added that the new High School building was built, at a cost of \$93,909.86, and that their school tax last year, for the ordinary expenses of the schools, was \$40,708.31. Foremost among the friends and patrons of the schools have been B. F. Felton, A. C. Tuxbury, Peter Hittle, B. S. Rand, G. S. Judd, L. S. Payne, A. G. Kent, and many others.

SCHOOLS OF LOCKPORT.

The educational facilities of Lockport, prior to 1848, were limited to seven district schools and a few private, or select, schools. The district schools were subject to the same laws, rules and regulations as the common schools of the rural districts throughout the State. The seven school houses were rude structures, most of them having but one room, and none of them more than two. The stone dwelling, still standing on the corner of North Adam and Dayton streets, is a fair sample of them all. The furniture and equipments, like the buildings, were of the coarsest and cheapest kind. All the public school property of Lockport in 1847 was not worth \$10,000, while the present value of the school property of the city is at least \$300,000.

In 1846 Sullivan Caverno, a graduate of Dartmouth College, and a leading lawyer in the village, who had been principal of Lewiston Academy, conceived the idea of a school system which should bring not only a common school, but an academic education within the reach of all. He prepared a bill, embodying his ideas, and won to its support so many of the influential men of the village, that with but little opposition it became a law March 31, 1847. The territory covered by the seven common school districts became the "Union School District of Lockport." The seven districts were continued as primary school districts. It was provided that two or more primaries might be united to form secondary districts. A central school, to be known as the "Lockport Union School," in which were to be taught only the higher branches of education, was provided for. The Union School, seven primary schools and three secondaries were organized under the law, a system that continues until now, except that the "intermediate" takes the place, substantially, of the three secondary schools. The control of the whole system was vested in a Board of Education, composed of twelve trustees, one for each of the primary districts, and five for the Union School district.

The scheme was somewhat analogous to that of our Federal Union and the States comprising it; but so absolute is the control of the Board of Education over all the schools that nothing like the assertion of State rights against the central power has ever occurred. The members of the Board of Education named in the law were Sullivan Caverno, William G. McMaster, J. T. Bellah, S. H. Marks, Isaac Colton, J. S. Wolcott, E. S. Boardman, Nathan Dayton, Samuel Works, Jonathan L. Woods, L. A. Spalding and Hiram Gardner. They were eminently representative men. It is doubtful whether twelve other names could have been se-

lected for the great work of laying broad and deep the foundation of a successful school system for the village, which would have carried with them equal weight. The contract for the Union School (now the Intermediate School) building was awarded to George and Walter Williams, by whom work was commenced early in 1847, and completed in the spring of 1848. The contract price was less than \$12,000.

The schools were opened under the new system July 5, 1848—fifty-three years ago—with appropriate and imposing ceremonies. Frederick R. Lord, a son of President Lord, of Dartmouth College, and a graduate of that institution, was installed as principal of the Union School, with a full corps of competent and experienced teachers. The primary schools were free from the start; but in the secondary schools and the Union School a regular charge was made for tuition, and any deficiency was made good by a tax upon the Union School District. After a few years the taxes were deemed by many burdensome, and an amendment was obtained to the law forbidding the application of any money raised by tax to the payment of teachers' wages in the Union School, which was for a long time a source of embarrassment to the Board and to the teachers. About the year 1850 the school became an academy; the Board was authorized to appoint a superintendent and to increase the rates of tuition.

Sullivan Caverno had thus far been president of the Board, and really superintendent of the schools, devoting a large part of his time and an immense amount of labor to organizing them upon a good working basis. Our late townsman, M. L. Burrell, was the first superintendent. To him was due great credit for his wise counsel and the discreet and conscientious manner in which he helped to guide the new system through the brakers, which at that time threatened its destruction. The principals up to 1855 were F. R. Lord, Nathan Brittain and Moses H. Fitts. Commencing with the principalship of William P. Eaton, and during his administration, and those of Edwin A. Charlton and B. M. Reynolds, the school so grew in public favor, and the attendance was so large, that the Board of Education was enabled not only to pay the salaries of the teachers promptly, in full, notwithstanding they could raise no money for that purpose by tax, but to accumulate a surplus of some \$3,000, which was turned over to the general fund, when, in 1867, under the operation of State law, tuition became free in all the schools.

About the year 1867 commenced the long and prosperous administration of Principal Asher B. Evans, which was continued to the close of his life, in 1890. The school continued to grow in numbers and influence, and in 1890 the new Union School building was completed and occupied. The site, building, furniture and apparatus cost about \$150,000. It is believed to be second to none in the State in its adaptation to the needs of a school. Professor Edward Hayward became principal in 1891, and served ten years, during which time the high standing of the school was fully maintained. He was succeeded by the present incumbent, Professor Morelock, under whose management continued success seems assured. The first class graduated, in 1858, numbered four graduates; the last one, 1902, fifty-four. Did space permit we would like to give the names of the teachers, self-sacrificing men and women, who, through all the years, bore aloft the proud banner of the Union School, and to whom the city owes a debt of gratitude which can never be paid.

It may not be amiss to name Belva A. McNall (now

Lockwood), the Washington lawyer, and Helen Holmes (Mrs. E. A. Charton), who is one of the editors and proprietors of the *Broadhead Independent*, of Broadhead, Wis., each of whom was for a considerable period preceptress of the Union School. Also Miss Charlotte Cross, who has been for more than thirty years the popular and efficient principal of the Junior Department of the Union School. It is believed that her continuous term of service in the same school has never been equaled by any other teacher in Niagara County.

The earlier superintendents were M. L. Burrell, Hezekiah Scovell, George P. Germain, Samson Robbins, James Atwater and James Ferguson. Prominent among those of late years have been George Griffith, now superintendent of schools at Utica, New York, and Emmett Belknap, the present incumbent, who has served the city faithfully these many years. Conspicuous among the ardent friends of the Union School in the early days, not already mentioned, were John Van Horn, William G. McMaster, Dr. B. S. Delano and James Jackson, A. J. Mansfield and Horatio Kilborne, and in later years, as presidents of the Board of Education, Hon. John A. Merritt, H. S. Chapman and Hon. John E. Pound. The old Union School, after nearly fifty years of service, was for a few years unused, and there were those who advocated its sale for commercial or industrial purposes; but finally better counsels prevailed and it was reconstructed at more than its original cost; is now occupied as an intermediate school, and multitudes of men and women in middle life, who looked upon it with pride and affection as their alma mater, are rejoiced at the result and hope it may stand as a conspicuous landmark for hundreds of years to come.

SUPERVISION OF SCHOOLS OUTSIDE OF CITIES.

About the year 1840, under the leadership of Horace Mann, in Massachusetts, Samuel Young, N. S. Benton, Salem Town, Professor Davies and others in this State, there was a great revival of interest in popular education throughout the country. Normal schools, teachers' institutes, and town, county and State associations of teachers and friends of education were organized.

Time honored systems of organization, methods of discipline and instruction were boldly challenged. Corporal punishment was called a relic of barbarism; rate bills were denounced and free education demanded. New, and what were claimed to be, improved methods, of instruction, were proposed and advocated with consummate ability. In 1840 a system of town superintendents was substituted for the three inspectors in each town. In addition to this supervision in the year 1841 the office of county superintendents was created.

Moses H. Fitts, at that time principal of Lewiston Academy, was the first county superintendent. He was followed in succession by Samuel J. Mills and Joshua Cooke, of Lewiston, and George D. Lamont, a rising lawyer, of Lockport. Mr. Fitts was well known throughout the county, and afterwards became principal of the Lockport Union School. But little is remembered of the administration of Mr. Mills. Joshua Cooke was then a young man, energetic, ambitious and conscientious, and did much to elevate the common schools of the county. During his administration the Albany Normal School, the first Normal in the State, was established, and he appointed the first State pupils to that institution from this county. George D. Lamont would have made a model superintendent could he have given his time to the duties of his office. He was talented, quick-witted and sometimes slightly sarcastic. Dur-

ing his term of office a teachers' institute for the county was held, under his supervision, in the old stone school house which stood on Walnut street, near the corner of Pine and Walnut streets, conducted by two graduates from the Normal School. Oliver Dyer, who was born and educated in the Town of Porter, followed teaching for a while in the Village of Lockport, but had drifted to New York City, and had attained considerable eminence as a writer and reporter for the New York press, and who afterwards became Swedenborgian minister, came before the institute and gave a lecture upon "Phonotypy."

He urged upon the teachers the great importance of the reform in spelling, and their responsibility in the matter; dwelt upon the absurdities of the prevailing method, and closed by saying that the teachers could master the new system in twelve hours; but that he did not expect it to come into general use in less than fifty years. He made an appointment for the further discussion of the subject at the coming evening session.

At that session, for some reason, Mr. Dyer did not appear, and Superintendent Lamont discussed the subject alone from his own standpoint. Among other things he said: "Suppose a party of explorers should start in row-boats to explore the Mississippi River, leaving New Orleans and following all its windings, carrying their boats around the Falls of St. Anthony, until they finally reached its source; should then turn round and say, 'Well, this is an awful crooked river; let us go to work and straighten it.' You might as well," said he, "undertake to straighten the Mississippi River as the English language. Furthermore," the gentleman said, "you could learn this system in twelve hours, but it would not come into use in less than fifty years. Then I would advise you to wait forty-nine years, eleven months, twenty-nine days and twelve hours, then master phonotypy in twelve hours and be ready for its general introduction." This incident is given to illustrate a characteristic of Mr. Lamont, who afterwards became a Judge of the Supreme Court, serving in that capacity with great acceptance during the remainder of his life.

By this time experience had demonstrated the fact that one man could not successfully supervise the schools of a county comprising two or more Assembly districts. The county superintendents were superseded by school commissioners, one for each Assembly district. This system has been continued to this present time, and seems to meet the wants of our people. The first commissioners were Messrs. Bristol and Hewitt. The present incumbents are Mr. Van Cleve, of the first district, and Miss Adalaide L. Harris of the second. They have both served two terms, which indicates the approval of their constituents. Three of these commissioners, who may justly be called pioneers, are still living in the county. Esek Aldrich, of Somerset, John G. Freeman, of Lockport, and Ralph Stockwell, of Wilson, who was ten years a teacher and three or four years a town superintendent before becoming commissioner. William Gritman, Capt. D. L. Pitcher and Col. J. B. Baker all served with distinguished merit in the War of the Rebellion. D. L. Pitcher entered the service as a private in the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Infantry fought through the war, was twice wounded, four times promoted, and came home a Captain of the Eighth Heavy Artillery. After his return he was for a time principal of the Tonawanda Union School, a position which he resigned to accept a place in the Treasury Department at Washington, which he still holds.

Jonas Brown was many years a successful teacher,

served two terms as commisisoner, and represented his district in the Assembly.

Norman P. Browning was school commissioner two terms and many years principal of the Union School at Suspension Bridge, now under charge of Professor Lovell. He has been for several years past principal of one of the largest schools in Buffalo.

The Rev. Charles Caverno, a nephew of Sullivan Caverno, obeyed the injunction of Horace Greeley, and went West. He has fine literary ability and has published several books, some of which are in the Lockport Union School Library. He resides at Lombard, Illinois.

CONCLUSION.

Niagara County has just reason to be proud of her schools, and of the work they have done for nearly a century past. During the last fifty years there have gone out from them a multitude of men and women who have made their influence felt in all the walks of life. The list is too large to enumerate of those who have filled, and are filling, important and responsible positions in church and state, in the army and navy, in schools and colleges, in legislative halls, in business, social and political life, not only in our own country, but in many distant lands. We think their

numbers and their successes are largely due to the excellence of our schools during the last fifty or sixty years. The increased usefulness of our schools is the only guaranty of the perpetuity of our form of government. Republics can only be perpetuated by the general diffusion of knowledge among all classes of the people.

This is emphatically a commercial, industrial and utilitarian age. Millionaires and multimillionaires are increasing in numbers and influence, and this tendency must be modified, and to some extent neutralized, by increased intelligence and morality among the masses of our people. If the nation is to live, the vexed question of capital and labor must be settled by the present and the rising generations, and it will require the highest order of intelligence and the most acute moral sense to settle it aright.

"Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,
When wealth accumulates, and men decay."

Our schools are the bulwarks of our national safety. Stronger than armies and navies, they must have our constant and fostering care. Their success during the last century should be the assurance of greater success during the century to come.



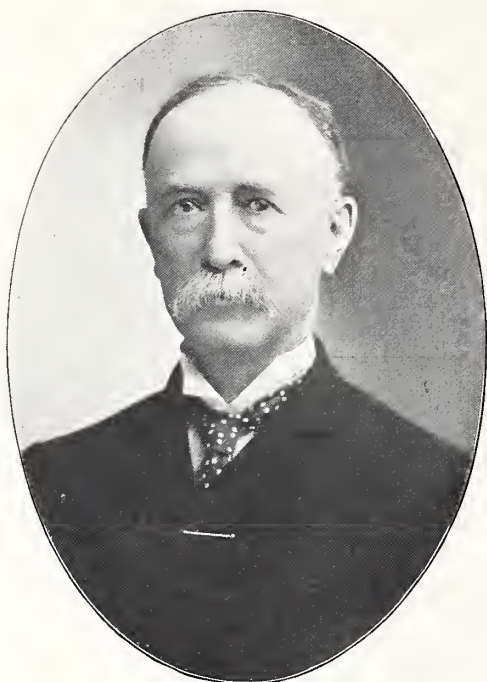
SCENE ALONG EIGHTEEN-MILE CREEK.

The Bench and Bar of Niagara County.

BY JUDGE DAVID MILLAR.

IT IS less than 100 years since the first Niagara County was organized. Old Niagara County was organized in 1808. The present county was organized in 1821, having in that year been created by act of the Legislature, which gave the old name to a part of the old county and the name of Erie and the old organization to the remainder of its territory.

In both forms the territory embraced in the limits of



JUDGE DAVID MILLAR.

the present County of Niagara contributed to the judiciary of the State as well its own judges.

The County of Niagara was almost wholly forest covered when organized, and it is stated upon apparently reliable authority, that at its organization there were but ten lawyers who resided in its limits.

It was to be expected that under such circumstances both its judges and its lawyers should be immigrants from other counties or States, and it is worthy of note in this connection that all the judges of the county, as well as the judges appointed or elected from it as Circuit Judge and Justice of the Supreme Court, down to the year 1899, were men who were not natives of the county.

COURTS.

Prior to 1823 the courts of the county and the Circuit Court as well were held at Lewiston. In that year the county seat was located at Lockport by a commission appointed by act of the Legislature.

A court house was erected in Lockport, which was completed in 1825, and remained as the court house of the county till 1885 when the present court house was erected.

It is worth remembering that since the year 1823 the courts of the county and the circuit courts and courts of equity, as well the sittings of the Supreme Court, have uniformly been held at Lockport, and that they have never been interrupted by war, pestilence or famine, and that during

that time there have been tried in the court house in Lockport many important cases, some of which have brought to it lawyers of State and National reputation, and that in it, or in cases tried, there have been rendered decisions not only numerous, but of very great importance to the suitors and the profession.

There have sat as judges in the court house some men of great reputation, amongst whom were William L. Marcy and Noah Davis. Lawyers of wide renown have pleaded there, amongst whom may be mentioned John C. Spencer, Abram Stewart, Washington Hunt, Daniel S. Dickinson and Sanford E. Church.

FIRST JUDGES.

The act which created the present Niagara County appointed Silas Hopkins of Lewiston first judge and James Van Horn of Newfane and Robert Fleming of Lewiston puisne judges.

The office of first judge of the county was filled as follows: Silas Hopkins, 1823; Robert Fleming, 1828; Nathan Dayton, 1833; Washington Hunt, 1836; Elias Ransom, 1841; Jonathan L. Woods, 1846.

COUNTY JUDGES.

After 1846 the persons who filled the office which corresponded to that of first judge were known as county judges, and since that year the county judges and the dates of the taking the offices have been as follows: Hiram Gardner, 1847; Levi F. Bowen, 1851 (resigned and Elias Ransom appointed 1852); Alfred Holmes, 1857; George D. Lamont, 1855 (resigned and Hiram Gardner appointed in 1868); Levi F. Bowen, 1874; Frank Brundage, 1878 (resigned and Cyrus E. Davis appointed in 1883); Alvah K. Potter, 1884; David Millar, 1890, and Charles Hickey, 1896.

SURROGATES.

The surrogates of Niagara County and the dates of their respective appointment or taking office after election were as follows: Rufus Fleming, 1821; Willard Smith, 1822; Hiram Gardner, 1831; Joseph C. Morse, 1836; Henry A. Carter, 1840; Josiah K. Skinner, 1844; Thomas M. Webster, 1851; Mortimer M. Southworth, 1855; George W. Bowen, 1859; Henry D. Scripture, 1863; John T. Murray, 1867; Joshua Gaskill, 1871; George P. Ostrander, 1877; William J. Bulger, 1883 (resigned and Chauncey E. Dunkleberger appointed 1889). In 1896 the offices of county judge and surrogate were consolidated, and since that time the office has been filled by the present county judge, Charles Hickey.

DISTRICT ATTORNEYS.

It is only since 1818 that each county in the State, with a single exception, has had its own district attorney.

Prior to that date district attorneys were appointed to serve as prosecuting officers in criminal cases in districts which were composed of more than one and generally of several counties.

Embracing part of the time of the existence of the old, and all of the new, county organization, the names of the district attorneys of Niagara County and the dates of their respective appointment or taking office after election were as follows: Charles G. Olmstead, 1818; Herman B. Potter,

1819; Zina K. Colvin, 1821; Elias Ransom, Jr., 1830; William Hotchkiss, 1833; Joseph C. Morse, 1836; Robert H. Stearns, 1836; Jonathan S. Woods, 1839; Alfred Holmes, 1843; Sherburne B. Piper, 1845-1847; George D. Lamont, 1850; John L. Buck, 1853; Andrew W. Brazee, 1856; Mortimer M. Southworth, 1859; Frank Brundage, 1874; Ben J. Hunting, 1877; Eugene M. Ashley, 1880; Daniel E. Brong, 1886; Patrick F. King, 1890; Abner T. Hopkins, 1896; Burt G. Stockwell, 1902.

ATTORNEYS.

According to the best obtainable information there were at the time of the organization of the present Niagara County but ten attorneys living in the county. Their names and places of residence were as follows: William Hotchkiss, Zina H. Colvin and Bates Cooke of Lewiston, John Birdsall, J. F. Mason, Elias Ransom, Hiram Gardner, Theodore Chapin, Sebridge Dodge and Harry Leonard, of Lockport.

The list given above embraces the names of some men of great importance and ability.

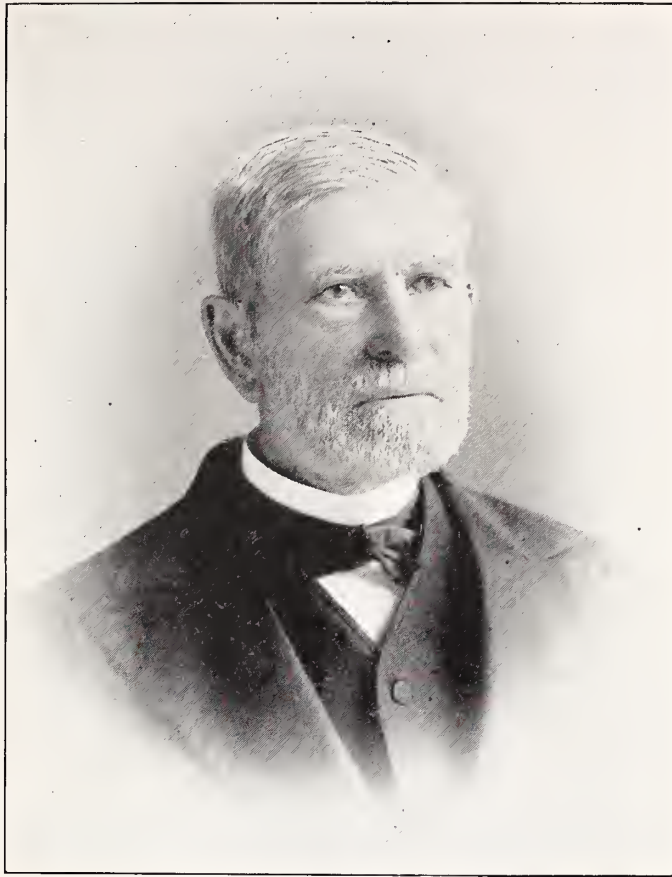
Some of these men are still represented in this county by their relatives. Some of the grandchildren of William Hotchkiss and Silas Hopkins are now residing at the village of Lewiston and elsewhere in the county. A son of Bates Cooke, Rev. Joshua Cooke, is not only living, but is still a hale and hearty man, and has taken an active part in the preparation of the sketches which are embodied in this

The list is long and embraces the names of many who have attained much deserved prominence as lawyers and as citizens.

Some have removed to other places and have there achieved prominence and success.

The bar of Niagara County gave to the State a Governor, Washington Hunt; two Comptrollers, Washington Hunt and Bates Cooke; two Justices of the Supreme Court, Levi F. Bowen and George D. Lamont; an honored member of Congress, Richard Crowley, who was also United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York; a United States Marshal for the Northern District of New York, Edward I. Chase; three Senators for the district of which Niagara County has been a part, Richard Crowley, Cuthbert W. Pound and Timothy E. Ellsworth; an Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York, John E. Pound; an Assistant United States District Attorney for the Western District of New York, S. Wallace Dempsey.

Some of her lawyers have been men of mark in ways other than in the line of their profession.



JUDGE ALFRED HOLMES.

Samuel De Veaux, of Niagara Falls, conceived and put in execution effectively by his will as noble a scheme for benefiting his fellow-beings as could well be conceived. To him alone we owe the existence and the good work and example of De Veaux College.



JUDGE HIRAM GARDNER.



JUDGE A. K. POTTER.

work. The venerated widow of Hiram Gardner is still living in Lockport and in the enjoyment of good health.

Of the many lawyers who have followed in Niagara County's first quota of lawyers much might be said of a kindly and flattering nature.

Governor Hunt was beloved by the people of the county for his many amiable and manly qualities and distinguished himself by his large heartedness and liberality, which was manifested in a considerable and permanent fund given by him for benevolent purposes.

William Hotchkiss was first judge of the old county, and also district attorney of the new county. He was held in high esteem and was amongst the leading men of the county of his day.

Zina H. Colvin was celebrated as a witty, able and eloquent lawyer and filled a conspicuous place as a prosecuting officer of the county.

Bates Cooke, aside from being an able lawyer and prominent citizen, became Comptroller of the State and a member of Congress.

Hiram Gardner was for more than half a century a legal practitioner, and his conspicuous ability and talent was successfully directed to the elevation of the judicial office and of the legal profession. His ideas of political honor were of the most elevated character, and though he held public office for more than twenty-five years, he never sought official preferment or solicited the vote of any man. His be-

lishment of the Union School in Lockport, which was the first of its kind in the State, and the part Mr. Caverno took in this work entitles him to the gratitude and respect of every citizen of the county. He was late in life appointed one of the Commissioners to revise the Statutes of the State and served acceptably in that capacity.

Silas Hopkins, though judge of the county, was not a lawyer by profession. However he was possessed of a broad mind and rare judgment, and was a successful farmer and business man, as well as a good judge.

Cyrus E. Davis of Niagara Falls was a man of rare wit and eloquence and possessed of an attractive personality. He possessed great ability as a trial lawyer and long filled a place at Niagara Falls that only a man of rare talent could fill. He was the choice of his party in its nomination for public office on several occasions, and although not elected he always came ahead of his (Democratic) party ticket.



NIAGARA COUNTY COURT HOUSE.

nevolence and devotion to the interests and prosperity of Lockport during his fifty years residence in the county endeared him to the entire community. In his church he was a pillar of strength, reflecting in his life the beauty and power of Christianity.

Alfred Holmes practiced law and served as judge for the period of about fifty years. He was first Master in Chancery, then District Attorney, and later County Judge, in which latter office he served eight years. His greatest characteristic was a patient and laborious effort to reach just decisions, and it is said of him that but one of his decisions was reversed.

John L. Buck was a courtly man and able lawyer. He became District Attorney of the county and long filled a leading place in her public affairs. He was for many years a member of the Board of Education of Lockport, and also a United States Circuit Court Commissioner.

Sullivan Caverno was a man of the strongest character and of great devotion to the principles he espoused. Probably his greatest work was that connected with the estab-

ishment of the Union School in Lockport, which was the first of its kind in the State, and the part Mr. Caverno took in this work entitles him to the gratitude and respect of every citizen of the county.

Sherborne B. Piper is enrolled as one of the earlier and amongst the ablest lawyers of the county. He resided and practiced law at Lewiston for many years. He was distinguished as the possessor of a large share of "horse sense," which he invariably had with him and used freely. He was member of Assembly twice, three times a candidate of the Democratic party for Congress, and was once District Attorney of the county.

Edward I. Chase, a brother of Salmon P. Chase, who was Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, appointed by President Lincoln, came to Lockport in the early thirties. He was a lawyer of marked distinction. He was appointed United States Marshal for the Northern District of New York, in 1861, which position he held up to the time of his death. He was the law partner of Hon. Richard Crowley.

It is a difficult, as well as a delicate, task to recall the names and relate the records of the many prominent law-

yers who have been members of the bar of Niagara County in times past, but who are now dead or removed to other places. Sketches of some of them have already been given, which is appreciated, are all too defective to do justice to any of them.



HON. JOHN E. POUND, U. S. COMMISSIONER.

There are many others whose records it would be agreeable to recall and relate. To do so is impracticable within the possible limits of this article.

It must suffice to give their names. Amongst those who were one time residents and members of the bar of Niagara County and who have removed are George C. Greene, Alfred S. Trude, John M. Chipman, Charles K. Robinson, Jacob A. Driess, A. A. Boyce, Isaac C. Colton, Edward C. Graves, William J. Bulger, Frank Brundage.

Amongst those who have deceased are recalled the following: Sherburne B. Piper, John T. Murray, Milton Seaman, Charles H. Piper, Moses S. Hunting, Myron L. Burrell, Joseph W. Higgins, William C. Greene, Garwood L. Judd, Luman H. Nichols, Harry K. Hopkins, Samuel Brown, Mark Hopkins, Samuel Wisner, Joseph Center, Dewit Chopin, Seth C. Hart, William S. Farnell, Jno. S. Williams, Charles Williams, De Forest Porter, Horatio J. Stow, Sparrow J. Sage, Elias Safford, John B. Heroy, Freeman J. Fithian, Charles D. Metz, Frank A. Ransom, Robert H. Strauss, Albert Strauss, Homer H. Stewart, Alvin C. Bradley, John H. Buck, R. Hudson Bond, James F. Fitts, Lafayette Chaffee, Schuyler Reynolds, Sylvester Parsons, Volney Simson, Ben J. Hunting, S. Cady Murray, Frank M. Ashley, George W. Cothran, Don A. Porter, Mortimer M. Southworth.

Following is a list of attorneys at law residing in Niagara County:

CITY OF LOCKPORT.

Eugene M. Ashley, Frank O. Averill, G. W. Bowen, Harry I. Benedict, Daniel E. Brong, A. A. Bradley, William W. Brim, Stacey D. Behe, Richard Crowley, Nathan M. Clark, William S. Caton, William W. Campbell, Chase Crowley, Charles C. De Lude, S. A. De Lude, S. Wallace Dempsey, Joseph Donnelly, C. E. Dunkleberger, Henry M. Davis, Merton K. Doty, T. E. Ellsworth, Roy H. Ernest, R. A. Feagles, Mort. A. Federspiel, Carl L. Fritton, Amos H. Gardner, L. P. Gordon, Selden E. Graves, William A. Gold,

E. C. Hart, Charles Hickey, Montford C. Holley, Abner T. Hopkins, John A. Higley, Augustus H. Ivins, Frederick P. James, D. Elwood Jeffery, George D. Judson, George A. Keating, Patrick F. King, Garrett G. Lansing, John H. Leggett, John E. Lillis, A. Edmund Lee, William E. Lockner,



S. WALLACE DEMPSEY, ASST. U. S. DISTRICT ATTORNEY.

David Millar, Charles Molyneux, F. D. Moyer, L. J. McParlin, John A. Merritt, John C. McDonough, Augustus Morris, Donald S. Moore, Charles L. Nicholls, Michael J. Noonan, Thomas G. Norman, William C. Olmsted, George P. Ostrander, Edward G. Parker, A. K. Potter, John E. Pound, E. Albert Rogers, W. H. Ransom, Frank A. Ransom, W. Luther Reeves, H. G. Richardson, E. H. Southworth, Chas. M. Southworth, William W. Storrs, Burt G. Stockwell, J. Frank Smith, Burt A. Smith, William M. Saraw, John L. Sheldon, Arthur F. Sellick, Edward J. Taylor, David Tice, Homer J. Upson, William H. Vicary.

NIAGARA FALLS.

Fred M. Ackerson, F. G. Anderson, Fred J. Brown, Eugene Cary, Charles E. Cromley, Morris Cohn, Jr., H. A. Constantine, T. F. C. Clary, Frederick Chormann, William E. Carr, Theodore L. Cheritree, John O. Chapin, F. A. Dudley, Charles R. Delmage, Thomas A. Devereux, W. Caryl Ely, Robert H. Gittings, H. N. Griffith, Alfred W. Gray, Harry Highland, Charles W. Johnson, George W. Knox, Fred L. Lovelace, Frank J. Mackenna, Martin S. Mix, C. H. Piper, Spencer B. Parker, Robert L. Rice, Aug. Thibaudeau, Carl E. Tucker, George M. Tuttle, W. C. Wallace.

NORTH TONAWANDA.

Elbert S. Boughton, Oscar S. Cramer, Norman D. Fish, Ed. B. Harrington, Frank N. Holman, James P. Lindsay, William Lane, Charles S. Orton, Lewis T. Payne, John K. Patton, Aug. F. Premus, Elias Root, W. Byron Simson, Charles W. Sickmon, Albert R. Smith, George J. Smith, Dow Vroman, Henry E. Warner.

MIDDLEPORT.

George F. Thompson, George R. Sheldon.

ROYALTON.

M. H. Clark.

YOUNGSTOWN.

S. Park Baker.

LEWISTON.

J. Boardman Scovell.

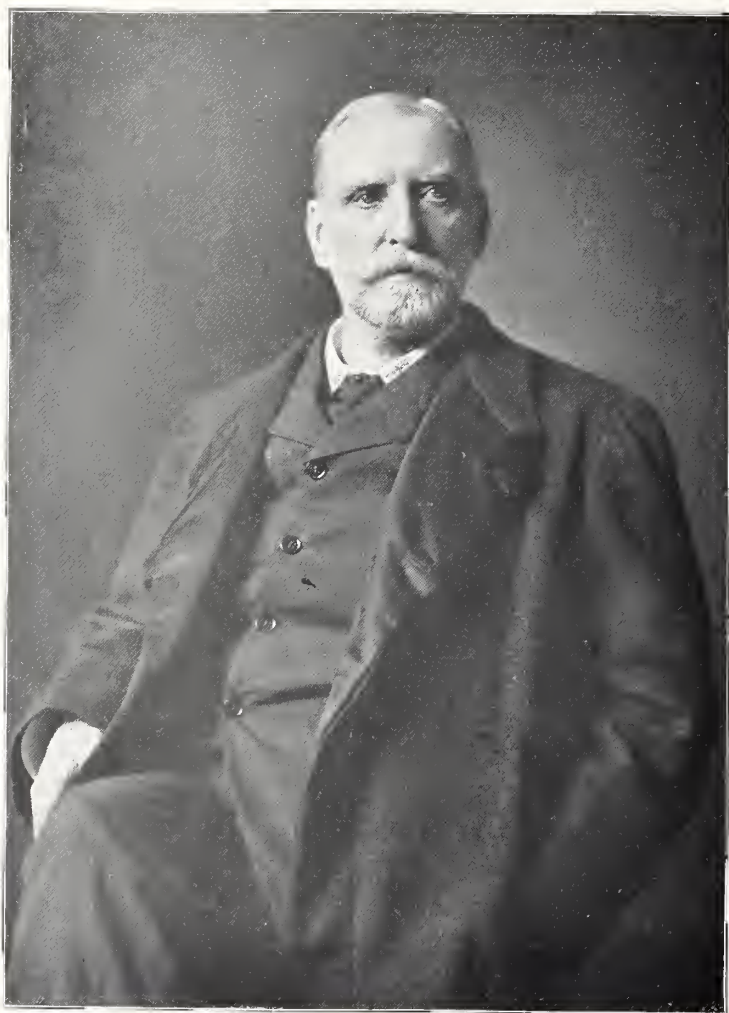
Political History of Niagara County.

BY HON. RICHARD CROWLEY.

HISTORY is said to be a record of the past. In writing it, details, while interesting, must be avoided, as it is only important facts and events which interest the present and posterity. The political history of the framework of our County has had to do with National, Congressional, State, Legislative, County, Town and Municipal organizations, and with elections and the men and results of over a Century past. It dates soon after, if not with, the War for Independence.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS—REPRESENTATIVES.

Under the first Constitution of New York, adopted in 1777, which was in force when the Constitution of the United States went into operation, in 1789, the State was



HON. RICHARD CROWLEY.

entitled to six members in the House of Representatives at Washington. The State was not then divided into Congressional Districts. The first Congressional District of which Niagara County was a part comprised the present counties of Niagara and Erie, under the name of Niagara County, and was established by an act of the State Legislature, March 8, 1808. It was known as the Fifteenth Congressional District, and embraced the counties of Alleghany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Genesee, Niagara and Ontario. Its first Representative in Congress was General Peter B. Porter, then a resident of Buffalo, but afterwards a resident

of Niagara Falls. He was Representative from Niagara County during the years 1809, 1810-1-2-3-4-5-6. He resigned in June, 1816, and Niagara County was then a part of the Twenty-first Congressional District of the State. The next Representative in Congress from Niagara County was Bates Cooke, of Lewiston, in 1832-3, it then being a part of the Thirtieth Congressional District. The next Representative in Congress from Niagara County was Charles F. Mitchell, of Lockport, in 1838-9, 1840-1, it then being the Thirty-third Congressional District. The next Representative in Congress was Washington Hunt, who represented the district in 1844-5-6-7, it then being the Thirty-fourth Congressional District. The next Representative from Niagara County was Thomas T. Flagler, in 1854-5-6-7, it then being the Thirty-first Congressional District. The next Representative in Congress was Burt Van Horn, during the years 1862-3, when it was the Thirty-first Congressional District, and also in 1866-7-8-9, when it was the Twenty-ninth Congressional District. The next Representative was Richard Crowley, of Lockport, in 1879, 1880-1-2, and down to March 4, 1883, when it was the Thirty-first Congressional District of the State. He was the last Representative from Niagara County in the House of Representatives.

CHANGES OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS.

Our County of Niagara has been attached to various counties in Congressional districts since the adoption of the Constitution of 1789. Its second creation into a part of a Congressional district was under the act of June 10, 1812, and its component parts were the same as before stated, and constituting the Twenty-first Congressional District of the State. The third change came under the act of April 17, 1822, when it was composed of the counties of Chautauqua, Erie and Niagara, constituting the Thirtieth Congressional District. The fourth change came under the act of June 29, 1832, constituting the Thirty-third District, and composed of the counties of Orleans and Niagara. The fifth change came under the act of September 6, 1842, comprising the same counties last named, and was the Thirty-fourth Congressional District. The sixth change came under the act of July 19, 1851, and was composed of the same counties constituting the Thirty-first Congressional District. The seventh change came under the act of April 23, 1862, composed of the counties of Orleans, Wyoming and Niagara, as the Twenty-ninth Congressional District. The eighth change came under the act of June 18, 1873, composed of the counties of Genesee, Wyoming and Niagara, as the Thirty-first Congressional District. The ninth change came under the act of May 16, 1883, and was composed of Niagara County, with the First, Second and Third Assembly districts of Erie County, as the Thirty-second Congressional District. The tenth change came under the act of 1892, composed of the counties of Livingston, Genesee, Wyoming, Orleans and Niagara, as the Thirtieth Congressional District of the State, and as it now exists.

SENATE DISTRICTS—SENATORS FROM NIAGARA COUNTY.

The county has been represented in the State Senate of our State Legislature since the adoption of the State Con-

stitution of 1777, substantially as follows: Under the State Constitution of 1777 the whole State was divided into four great districts, called the Southern, Middle, Eastern and Western Districts. Niagara County was a component part of the Western District, and each District at the time of the adoption of the Constitution was entitled to six Senators. Albany and all the State westward therefrom constituted the Western District at that time. I am not able to state that the present geographical limits of Niagara County furnished any Senator to the State Legislature under the Constitution of 1777. When the State Constitution of 1821 was adopted it divided the State into eight great Senatorial districts, composed of thirty-two Senators. The Eighth Senatorial District was composed of the counties of Alleghany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Steuben and Niagara, and the first Senator from what is now Niagara County who represented, in part, the Eighth Senatorial District from Niagara County, was George H. Boughton, of Lockport, in 1829 and 1830. The next State Senator under the Constitution of 1821, from Niagara County, was Samuel Works, from the City of Lockport, who was a member during the years 1837-8-9, 1840-1-2-3-4.

When the Constitution of 1846 was adopted it divided the State into thirty-two Senatorial Districts, and Genesee, Orleans and Niagara was the Twenty-eighth Senatorial District until about 1859, when it became the Twenty-ninth Senatorial District, and so continued until the adoption of the Constitution of 1894. Under the Constitution of 1846 Niagara County has been represented in the State Senate by the following persons, residents of Niagara County:

Horatio J. Stowe, of Lewiston, in 1858-9. He died in office.

George D. Lamont, of Lockport, in 1859.

Peter P. Murphy, of Royalton, in 1860-1.

Richard Crowley, of Lockport, in 1866-7-8-9.

Lewis T. Payne, of North Tonawanda, in 1878-9.

Timothy E. Ellsworth, of Lockport, in 1882-3-4-5.

Cuthbert W. Pound, of Lockport, under the Constitution of 1846, and in 1895 under the Constitution of 1894.

Under the Constitution of 1894 the State was divided into fifty Senatorial districts, and the counties of Genesee, Orleans and Niagara constituted the Forty-fifth Senatorial District. Niagara County, under that Constitution of 1894, has been represented in the State Senate by Timothy E. Ellsworth for the years 1896-7-8-9, 1900-1-2, and he is the present Senator from the district.

ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS.—ASSEMBLYMEN FROM NIAGARA COUNTY.

In the Assembly of the State of New York, under the Constitution of 1777, there were seventy members, and I know of no one chosen to that Assembly from what constitutes the present territory of Niagara County, except Robert Fleming, who was in the Assembly in 1818. Albany County, and all of the State westward, was entitled to ten members, under the Constitution of 1777. As new counties were formed, under the increase in population, different Assembly districts were created. In 1808, what was then known as Niagara County, and which was composed of the present counties of Erie and Niagara, constituted one Assembly district, and was entitled to one Member of Assembly. This continued until 1812-3, when the Assembly district was composed of Cattaraugus, Chautauqua and Niagara Counties, and was so continued down to 1822-3, when,

under the provisions of the Constitution of 1821, the County, as now constituted, became an Assembly district, and entitled to one Member of Assembly.

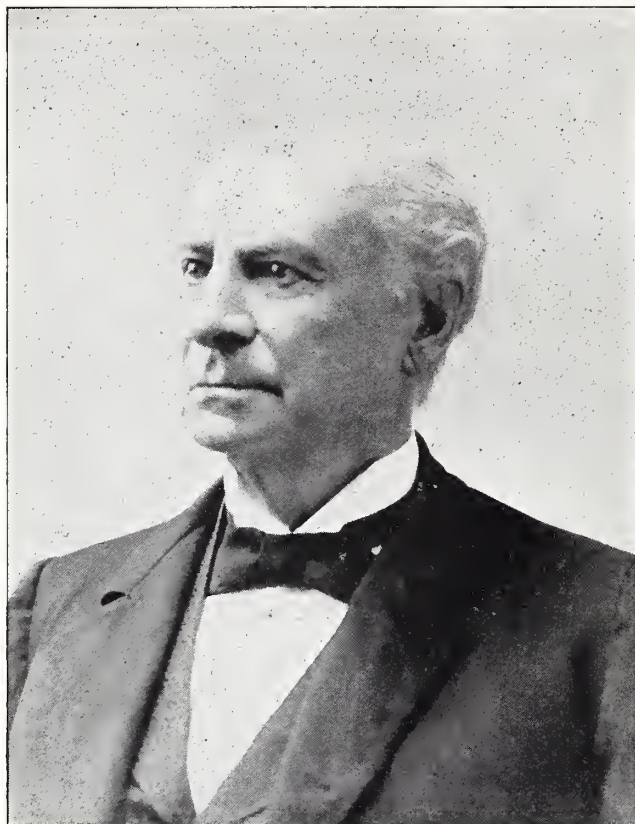
The first Member of Assembly from Niagara County, under the Constitution of 1821, appears to have been Benjamin Barlow, Jr., in the Assembly of 1823. Since that time the following named persons have represented the County in the Assembly of our State:

1824, Daniel Washburn.	1825, Daniel Washburn.
1826, William King.	1827, John Garnsey.
1828, John Garnsey.	1829, John Garnsey.
1830, Samuel De Vaux.	1831, Henry Norton.
1832, Henry Norton.	1833, Henry Norton.
1834, Robert Fleming, Jr.	1835, Henry McNeil.
1836, Hiram Gardner.	1837, Reuben H. Boughton.
	Davis Hurd.
	Hiram McNeil.
1838, Davis Hurd.	1839, Davis Hurd.
Peter B. Porter, Jr.	Peter B. Porter, Jr.
1840, Peter B. Porter, Jr.	1841, Peter B. Porter, Jr.
Francis O. Pratt.	Francis O. Pratt.
1842, Thomas T. Flagler.	1843, Thomas T. Flagler.
Francis O. Pratt.	John Sweeney.
1844, John Sweeney.	1845, Levi F. Bowen.
Luther Wilson.	John Sweeney.
1846, Lot Clark.	1847, Benjamin Carpenter.
Morgan Johnson.	Christopher H. Skeele.
1848, Elias Ransom.	1849, Hollis White.
Solomon Moss.	Morgan Johnson.
Morgan Johnson.	
1850, George W. Germain.	1851, Abijah H. Moss.
James Van Horn, Jr.	Jeptha W. Babcock.
1852, Abijah H. Moss.	1853, George W. Holley.
Jeptha W. Babcock.	Reuben F. Wilson.
1854, Robert Dunlop.	1855, Linus Jones Peck.
Reuben F. Wilson.	Ira Tompkins.
1856, William S. Fenn.	1857, Elisha Clapp.
John Gould.	John Gould.
1858, Burt Van Horn.	1859, James Sweeney.
John W. Labar.	Burt Van Horn.
1860, Thomas T. Flagler.	1861, Henry P. Smith.
Burt Van Horn.	Oliver O. Scovell.
1862, Benjamin H. Fletcher.	1863, Benjamin H. Fletcher.
Peter A. Porter.	William Morgan.
1864, James Jackson, Jr.	1865, Albert H. Pickard.
William Morgan.	Guy C. Humphrey.
1866, Solon S. Pomroy.	1867, Elisha Moody.
Guy C. Humphrey.	William Pool.
1868, Ransom M. Skeels.	1869, Ransom M. Skeels.
Benjamin Farley.	Benjamin Farley.
1870, Lewis S. Payne.	1871, John E. Pound.
Lee R. Sanborn.	Lee R. Sanborn.
1872, Isaac H. Babcock.	1873, Isaac H. Babcock.
George M. Swain.	George M. Swain.
1874, A. W. Comstock.	1875, A. W. Comstock.
Orville C. Bordwell.	Orville C. Bordwell.
1876, Amos A. Bissell.	1877, Amos A. Bissell.
Jonas W. Brown.	Sherburne B. Piper.
1878, Joseph D. Loveland.	1879, T. N. Van Valkenburg.
Sherburne B. Piper.	James Low.
1880, T. N. Van Valkenburg.	1881, Elijah Adams Holt.
James Low.	James Low.
1882, Joseph W. Higgins.	1883, Joseph W. Higgins.
Thomas V. Welch.	Thomas V. Welch.
1884, Jacob A. Driess.	1885, Jacob A. Driess.
Thomas V. Welch.	Walter P. Horne.
1886, Lewis P. Gordon.	1887, Christian F. Goerss.
Peter A. Porter.	Peter A. Porter.
1888, Christian F. Goerss.	1889, John F. Little.
Nelson D. Haskell.	J. Marville Harwood.

1890, Ruthven Kill.	1891, Garwood L. Judd.
J. Marville Harwood.	Levi Parsons Gillette.
1892, Garwood L. Judd.	1893, Elton T. Ransom.
L. P. Gillette.	
1894, John H. Clark.	1895, John H. Clark.
1896, Henry E. Warner.	1897, Henry E. Warner.
Frank A. Dudley.	Frank A. Dudley.
1898, Dow Vroman.	1899, John T. Darrison.
Henry S. Tompkins.	Jay S. Rowe.
1900, John T. Darrison.	1901, John T. Darrison.
Jay S. Rowe.	John H. Leggett.
1902, John T. Darrison and John H. Leggett, who are the present Representatives.	

GENERAL HISTORY.

Genesee County, which in the beginning of the Nine-



HON. THOS. T. FLAGLER.

teenth Century embraced all Western New York, was the great parent county, from which sprang all the counties between the Genesee and Niagara Rivers. The original Niagara County, comprising the present Counties of Erie and Niagara, was taken from it March 11, 1808. The present County of Niagara was detached from the present County of Erie April 2, 1821. Buffalo, the county seat of Niagara County, was retained as the county seat of Erie County, and Lewiston was practically the county seat of Niagara County, until a Legislative commission agreed upon Lockport as the county seat in July, 1822. It was the forty-second county of the State in the order of its creation.

The act, dividing the old County of Niagara, appointed the Sheriff, County Clerk and Judge of the new Niagara County, and the first annual election in the county was held in November, 1822. Joseph C. Yates was elected Governor at that election, and Erastus Root Lieutenant Governor. Both were members of the Democratic party.

The Eighth Senatorial District, composed of Alleghany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Livingstone, Monroe and Niagara, was represented in the Legislature at Albany by Timothy H. Porter, David Easton, Joseph Spencer and Herman J. Redfield. The State Legislature in both

branches was Democratic. The Congressional District, composed of Chautauqua, Erie and Niagara Counties, being then the Thirtieth, was represented in Congress by Albert H. Tracey, of Buffalo. James Monroe, of Virginia, was President of the United States, and Daniel D. Tompkins, of New York, was Vice President. Both were Democrats.

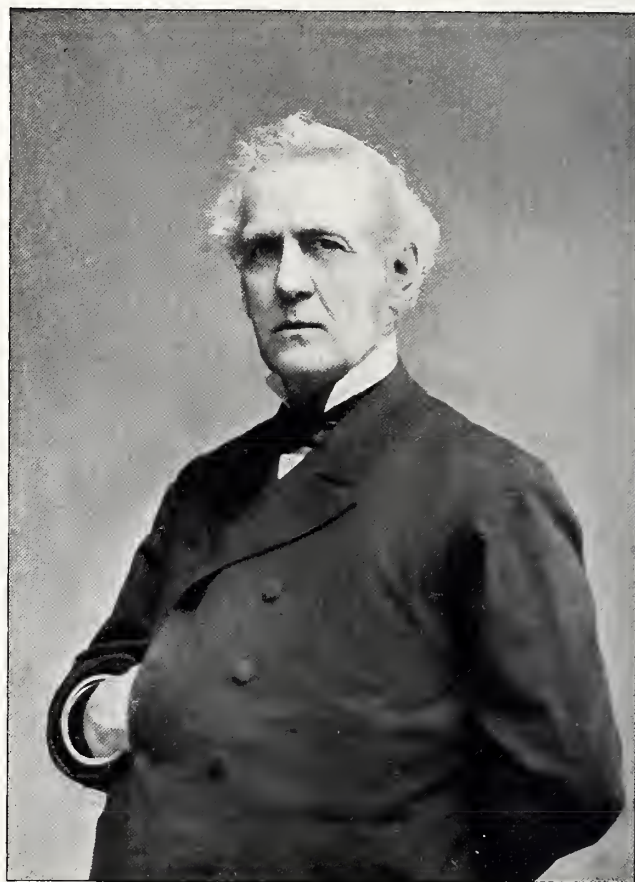
Martin Van Buren, a Democrat, and Rufus King, a Federalist, chosen by a combination of Democrats and Federalists, represented the State in the United States Senate.

The United States Senate and House of Representatives at Washington, had Democratic majorities.

So, it may be said, that Niagara County, in 1821-1822, came into political existence under Democratic auspices. The National administration at Washington and the State administration at Albany were Democratic.

THE ANTI-MASONIC AGITATION.

From the organization of the County, in 1821, down to the organization of the Anti-Masonic party, in 1827, no political movement of any importance occurred in the County. The abduction of William Morgan, in 1826, and his confinement in Fort Niagara, in this county, and mysterious disappearance thereafter, created a tempest throughout the County, and created political action.



HON. BURT VAN HORN.

From 1821, down to Morgan's abduction, in 1826, the Democratic party was the leading party in the State and Nation. The opposition to it in New York State was divided and distracted, and overrun with personal factions. Right away, after the abduction, people in this, and adjoining counties, and throughout the State, and in other States, began to take sides for and against Masonry, and to organize politically on Anti-Masonic lines.

Throughout Western New York, in the elections of 1827, in Genesee, Monroe, Livingston, Orleans and Niagara Counties, the Anti-Masons carried the elections, in face of both the other parties.

Political feeling ran very high in Niagara County on

this subject. Trials of parties, alleged to have taken part in the abduction, were held here. Eli Bruce, Sheriff of the County, was imprisoned in his own jail, and removed in September, 1827, upon charges growing out of that affair.

This excitement was continued, and added to, by the feeling engendered in the election of John Quincy Adams to the Presidency, in 1828, and the union of other opposing elements to the then Democratic party, finally crystalized into the formation of the Whig party, in 1834, which elected William H. Seward Governor of the State, in 1838, and again in 1840, and William Henry Harrison, President, in 1840.

The feeling against Masonry has passed away. Only once in a while a smouldering ember lights up. During the time I was in the State Senate, from 1866 to 1870, some question relating to Masonic organizations was referred to the Senate Committee on Charitable and Religious Societies, of which committee I was chairman. I received from a constituent, residing in the Town of Hartland, in this County, a bitter letter, opposing the desired action, and signing himself, "One whose memory goes back to the Morgan abduction."

THE KNOW NOTHINGS.

In 1854-5 the so-called "Know-Nothing" party came into existence, as a party, and influenced political action and political parties in Niagara County and in this State, and other States. The sentiment in that direction commenced in 1852, and Linus Jones Peck was elected to the Assembly, from the Lockport district, in 1855, on that ticket.

It polled 1,882 votes for Ullman, for Governor, in this county, in 1854. In 1855 it elected its State ticket, headed by Headley, as Secretary of State, and eleven State Senators and forty-four Members of Assembly. King, the Republican candidate for Secretary of State, polled, in this county, 2,498 votes. Headley, Know-Nothing, polled 2,247 votes, and the Democratic candidates polled—the "Hards" 835 and the "Softs" 265 votes. In 1856 it had a candidate for President, Millard Fillmore, under the name of the "American Party," and polled 1,985 votes; and Brooks, its candidate for Governor, polled 2,025 votes in Niagara County.

It was second in votes in this county, the Republican party leading.

It ran State tickets from 1854 to 1858, and then disappeared from County, State and National politics.

The Anti-Masonic party, commencing in 1827; the Know-Nothing party, commencing in 1852 and ending in 1858, and other political movements, before then and since, founded on prejudice, intolerance, bigotry and temporary passions, created angry and heated political action and feelings, but, not being based upon principle, were temporary in their lives and results.

The Whig party, organized in 1834, ceased to exist, practically, after the Presidential election of 1852.

BEGINNINGS OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.

From its elements, and from a large element of the Democratic party, dissatisfied with the action and attitude of their party on the Slavery question, as shown by the so-called "Free-Soil" movement of 1848, and from the Kansas and Nebraska troubles, there came into existence in all the Northern States, and in New York State, and in Niagara County, the Republican party.

In the State election of 1855 the "Republican" party appeared, with its first distinctively party ticket in New York State, and in Niagara County and all the other counties of the State.

In 1856 its first National convention was held. The Republican party and the Democratic party ever since have been, and now are, the great political parties in County, State and Nation.

Niagara County has known the Federalist party, commencing with Washington. It saw the rise of the Republican, or Democratic party, under Jefferson. It has taken sides with those two great political parties. It has seen the Native American and the Anti-Masonic movements down to 1834. It has seen the great Whig party rise in 1834 and fall in 1852.

It saw "Free-Soil," under the lead of ex-president Van Buren, help overthrow the Democratic party and its Presidential nominee, Mr. Cass, in this State, in 1848, and elect General Taylor, Whig, President.

It saw "Know-Nothingism" sweep over the State and through this County, in 1855. In 1855 and 1856 it saw the rise of a great new party, "the Republican party," and which, today, is the dominant party in the County, State and Nation.

It saw the rise of "Liberal Republicanism" in 1872, and has seen factions and isms of many kinds spring up and pass away. It has seen its sons fairly and honestly contend for their convictions in every election, under all mutations of parties, since the County became a factor in the political history of the State and Nation.

SOME EMINENT MEN IN PUBLIC LIFE.

During its political history Niagara County has furnished some eminent men to the State and National administrations. General Peter B. Porter was a distinguished officer in the American army on the Niagara Frontier in the War with Great Britain, in 1812-14. He was Secretary of War in John Quincy Adams' administration, in 1828, and he represented this Congressional District several times, as before stated, and also represented this Assembly District in the Assembly of the State. He was a man of ability, of high character, and one of the founders of an historic family in Western New York. Washington Hunt, of Lockport, was another eminent son of Niagara. He was elected Governor of the State, in 1850, over Horatio Seymour. He was also Comptroller of the State of New York, and represented this Congressional District at Washington for several terms in the House of Representatives. He was also County Judge of Niagara, in 1836. A handsome marble and bronze monument marks his resting place in Glenwood Cemetery, and his name and fame are dear to the men and women of our County.

NIAGARA COUNTY'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE JUDICIARY.

Niagara County has furnished eminent judges to the State and County Judiciary. Nathan Dayton was County Judge in 1833, and a Circuit Judge of the Supreme Court, under the Constitution of 1821, in 1838. He was also, during his declining years, elected County Clerk of Niagara County, on the Democratic ticket, against a Republican opponent, and, although the County was Republican, the respect and consideration felt for Judge Dayton made him successful in the election. Levi F. Bowen was also County Judge, in 1851, and again in 1873, and was also appointed to the Bench of the Supreme Court by Governor Hunt, and from there went, during his last year, to the Court of Appeals at Albany. He was also United States Provost Marshal for this district during the War of the Rebellion. He also served this County in the Assembly at Albany, and was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1866. George D. Lamont was another Justice of the State Su-

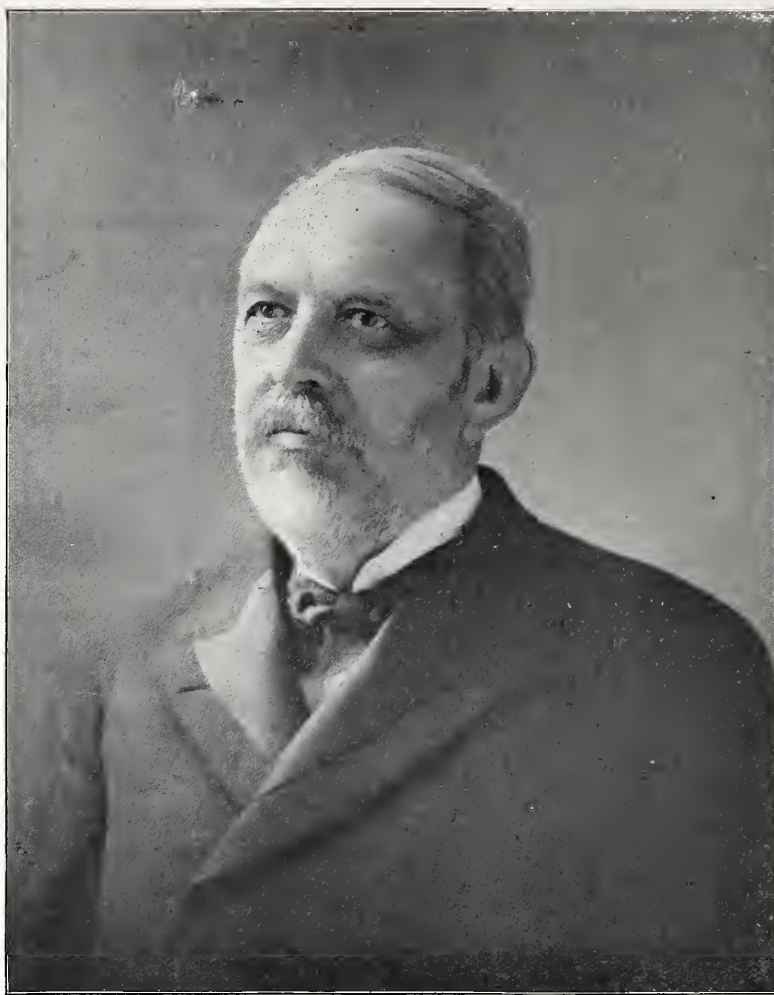
preme Court, in 1871, and died while in such office. He had been District Attorney and also County Judge of our County, and State Senator, and, during the Civil War, was District Attorney under the Provisional Government of Louisiana. Hiram Gardner was another eminent judge and citizen, being twice County Judge of the County, and one of the Canal Commissioners of the State of New York, and was of high character and ability. Down to the "Free Soil" movement of 1848 Judge Gardner had been a Democrat. In 1856 he was an ardent Republican and supporter of Fremont for the Presidency. In his office were maps in black and white, illustrating the free and slave states and Territories. In 1857 ex-Governor Marcy visiting ex-Governor Hunt at Lockport, called upon Judge Gardner, at his office to pay his respects. They had been Democrats together in the olden days. As they were about leaving, Marcy, looking at the maps on the walls, said: "Judge, it is easy to see from your maps and pictures what your politics now are. I only hope that in the next election for President you will be as unsuccessful as you were in the last."

The hope of Marcy was doomed to failure. Lincoln

citizen of Niagara. He was appointed United States Marshal for the Northern District of New York during Mr. Fillmore's administration. Edward I. Chase, of Lockport, an able lawyer, and a brother of Salmon P. Chase, Chief

Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, and Secretary of the Treasury in Mr. Lincoln's first Cabinet, was also United States Marshal for the Northern District of New York, appointed by Mr. Lincoln, in 1861. Another distinguished citizen of Niagara County was Sherburne B. Piper, a classmate in Dartmouth College with Franklin Pierce, afterwards President of the United States. During Mr. Pierce's administration he possessed great influence in the Democratic councils of New York State, and was instrumental in the selection of William L. Marcy, of New York, as Secretary of State in Mr. Pierce's Cabinet. He was District Attorney of the County, and twice elected Member of Assembly, on the Democratic Ticket, in this then strongly Republican District. Had Mr. Piper associated with public men, and interested himself in public measures,

he would have been an influential figure in State and National politics, but he preferred a quiet life, which he led



HON. TIMOTHY E. ELLSWORTH.



HON. JOHN H. LEGGETT.

was elected in 1860, and Judge Gardner aided in his election in Niagara County.

OTHER INFLUENTIAL PUBLIC MEN OF THE PAST.

John T. Bush, of Niagara Falls, was another honored



HON. JOHN T. DARRISON.

for many years in the pleasant Village of Lewiston, on the banks of the noble Niagara.

Samuel Works, who, under the Constitution of 1821, was for many years Senator in the State Senate from Niag-

ara County, was an intimate personal and political friend of William H. Seward and Thurlow Weed, the great Whig leaders of our State. He made Mr. Weed's house at Albany his home during the sessions of the State Senate. He was a man of strong common sense, of excellent judgment and of great influence in the councils of the Whig party during his time. As an evidence of his caution, it is related that a constituent remonstrated with him for not answering his letters, and in explaining his remissness, he said: "I do not like to write letters. They make records against a man. I prefer to wait until I come home and go around to the 'houses' and see the people." Another distinguished cit-



EX-GOVERNOR WASHINGTON HUNT.

izen of Niagara County was Col. Peter A. Porter, who was killed at Cold Harbor, Virginia, in Grant's campaign of 1864. He represented his Assembly District one term at Albany, in 1862, then raised the Eighth New York Heavy Artillery, and commanded it until his death. He was the son of Gen. Peter B. Porter, before mentioned, and is endeared to all the people of this County for his high character and patriotic services before and during the War of the Rebellion. The monument erected to his memory on the banks of the world-renowned Niagara attests the appreciation in which his memory is held by his friends and neighbors.

T. T. Flagler, of Lockport, was also a distinguished citizen of our County. As Assemblyman at Albany, as Representative at Washington, and as a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1866, he rendered important service to the County, District, State and Nation.

Burt Van Horn was another prominent citizen of Niagara. He represented his Assembly District three terms at Albany, and this Congressional District three terms at Washington. He was an active and influential Representative, and was a powerful factor in Niagara County from 1860 to 1870.

The list of Niagara County's politically distinguished men is too numerous to go over in detail. The array at home, at Albany, at Washington and elsewhere, is one of which the County may be proud.

While Niagara County did not take much part in polit-

ical affairs under the State Constitution of 1777, under the second Constitution, of 1821, the third Constitution, of 1846, and the present, fourth Constitution, of 1894, she has, through her public men and political officials, taken a prominent stand and played a conspicuous part in the councils of the State and Nation.

OUR PUBLIC SERVANTS OF THE PRESENT.

The Collectors of United States Customs at Suspension Bridge, in the past and present, under all administrations, and the postmasters throughout the County, have been able and country, while some of them have been, and are, of conceptions in the past, have been competent and creditable men. Our Representatives at Albany and Washington have compared favorably with those from other parts of our State and County, while some of them have been, and are, of commanding influence.

The present State Senator, Mr. Ellsworth, was for over eight years Collector of Customs at Suspension Bridge, being appointed by General Grant during his first term. He served creditably in the military service during the Civil War on the staffs of Gens. Wadsworth and Thomas. He is now serving in his tenth year as State Senator, the longest Senatorial service of any one from our County, or in the district. With long public service, large and varied experience, and of excellent executive and administrative ability, he has become one of the leading men of the State and influential in all political affairs. In the full maturity of his mental and physical powers, he is about to lay aside the Senatorial toga. The County and District can not replace him.

John T. Darrison, Member of Assembly from this Lockport district, is serving his fourth consecutive term, an honor shared only by Peter B. Porter. This attests his worth and the appreciation of his constituents. He has also been Mayor of Lockport.

John H. Leggett, of Niagara Falls, Member of Assembly from that district, is now serving his second term. He will undoubtedly be returned this year, and has a promising future before him.

The present Mayors of the cities of the County are upright and capable men.

The Common Councils of the Cities and Boards of Supervisors of the County compare favorably with similar bodies in other counties and cities.

From small proportions, in 1821, we have grown into large political units. We have three cities, Lockport, Niagara Falls and North Tonawanda. We have four villages, Lewiston, Youngstown, Wilson and Middleport, and twelve towns, Cambria, Hartland, Lockport, Lewiston, Newfane, Niagara, Porter, Pendleton, Royalton, Somerset, Wilson and Wheatfield.

At the first annual election, in November, 1822, the County cast 1,324 votes.

At the last Presidential election, in 1900, it cast 17,611 for the different candidates for President.

POLITICAL TENDENCY.

From the organization of the County, in 1821, down to the present time, it may be truthfully said that the majority of the people in Niagara County, and in the Congressional and Senatorial Districts, of which it is and has been a part, have been in political action on the side opposed to the Democratic party.

This is attested by its Congressional and Senatorial Representatives. From 1821 down to 1902, a period of eighty-one years, only four Democratic members have rep-

resented it in the National Congress, namely: Charles B. Benedict, elected in 1876; Robert S. Stevens, elected in 1882; John M. Wiley, elected in 1888, and Thomas L. Bunting, elected in 1890.

The same may be said of the Senatorial Representatives at Albany, notably since the adoption of the Constitution of 1846. Since then the only Democratic Senator has been Lewis T. Paine, elected in 1878.

Also it may be said of the principal County officers, elected since 1821, County Judges, Sheriffs, County Clerks, Surrogates, District Attorneys, etc.

This is also apparent in the vote of the County for Governor and President, from 1836 down to the present time. The Whigs had a majority of 124 over the Democrats in the Presidential election of 1836. In the Presidential election of 1840 the Whigs had a majority of 745. In the Presidential election of 1844 the Whigs had a majority over the Democrats of 511. In the Presidential election of 1848 the Whig candidate, Taylor, polled 2,808 votes; Cass, the regular Democratic candidate, polled 1,313, and Van Buren, 2,880. In 1852 the Whigs polled 3,413 votes; the Democrats, 2,862, and Hale received 1,056 votes. In the Presidential election of 1856 Fremont, Republican, received 3,906 votes; Buchanan, 1,864, and Fillmore, 1,985 votes. In the Presidential election of 1860 Lincoln received 4,992 votes and Douglas 3,741 votes. In the Presidential election of 1864 Lincoln received 4,839 votes and McClellan 4,287. In the Presidential election of 1868 Grant carried the County by several hundred majority, and in the Presidential election of 1872 he carried it by about 1,000 majority. In the Presidential election of 1876 Tilden, Democrat, had a majority in the County. I have mislaid the actual figures.

In the Presidential election of 1880 the Republicans carried the County by 541 majority for Garfield. In the Presidential election of 1884 the Democrats carried the County by a majority of 318 for Cleveland. In the Presidential election of 1888 Harrison, Republican, had a majority in the County of about 500.

In 1892 Cleveland carried the County by about 200. In

1896 McKinley carried the County by about 2,300, and also carried it in 1900 by about 1,600 majority.

CONCLUSION.

The political outlook of our County is full of hope and encouragement. The Erie Canal, with its probable enlargement, running through the center of the County, east and west; with Lake Ontario, destined in the near future to increased commercial importance, on its north; and the beautiful and useful Niagara River, on its west; with the present and unquestionable future development of electrical power at Niagara Falls, our County should look forward with growing faith to greater manufacturing, commercial and political power and usefulness.

The character and political intelligence of our people may be relied on to maintain the high standards of the past and present of our political officials and representatives.

Integrity, ability and fitness should always be the tests for political office, and if these tests shall be observed and maintained, the political future of the County will always be safe.

[*The Hon. Richard Crowley, who contributed the chapter on the Political History of the County, has had a notable career in public life, and Mr. Crowley's observations, either oral or written, are always received with respectful attention and regarded with keen interest. Mr. Crowley was born in Lockport, December 14, 1836. He was admitted to the bar at an early age, and was the first City Attorney after Lockport was incorporated as a municipality, in 1865. He was State Senator from 1866 to 1870; United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York from March, 1871, to February, 1879, when he resigned, having been elected to Congress in 1878. He was a Member of Congress from 1879 to March, 1883. He was appointed by Governor Morton agent for the State of New York to adjust the war claims against the United States, growing out of the Civil War and the Spanish War, which position he still holds.—ED.]



LIGHT HOUSE AT OLCOTT BEACH.

Niagara County in the Wars.

BY L. D. LEVAN.



THE United States troops entered Fort Niagara for the first time, on its peaceable evacuation by the British, on August 11, 1796. From that time it has been continuously garrisoned by our soldiers, except from the middle of December, 1813, to the end of the war (it being surrendered to us in peace in March, 1815), and for a period after 1825, when it was intentionally left tenantless.

Of the part that our County played in the War of 1812 I shall say but little. The British victory at Queenston Heights, in 1812; their capture of Fort Niagara by night at-



L. D. LEVAN.

tack, when its gates were wide open and its commandant absent; the burning by them of the entire American frontier, both the latter in December, 1813, left that territory for a while without an inhabitant. Eighteen hundred and fourteen saw the United States troops the aggressors. Canada was invaded, and after our victories of Chippewa and Lundy's Lane, the sortie from Fort Erie ended the war hereabouts in our favor.

That sortie was planned and led by Gen. Peter B. Porter, then a Major General of New York militia, and the only white leader that the Senecas, friends of the Americans, would follow in war. According to Lord Napier, "that is the only instance in history when a besieging army was utterly routed by a single sortie."

Many Niagara County men, yes, all of those who were living on the frontier, fought long and well for their country and their homes. They all took part. Many were wounded, many were killed; of the individual war actions of many of them there never was any record. Some joined the United States army; many more joined the militia; many simply banded together, and in a desultory way fought the British and savages as they burnt and murdered in that December of 1813; fleeing, of course, when they were outnumbered, most of them joining the next year in the invasion of Canada.

Of the war record of the Niagara County men in the regular army, during the War of 1812, I have been unable to get access to the records. It is not permitted by the rules of the War Department at Washington. Of the record of the militia, I could not in the time assigned me make the required investigations.

It is of the services of Niagara County men in the Civil War that I am to write.

BEGINNING OF THE CIVIL WAR.

The result of the Presidential election in November, 1860, was received in the Southern States in such manner that ambitious and unscrupulous politicians felt encouraged to advocate, and to endeavor to carry out their long and well designed theories and plans of secession. The Southern people were stimulated to violence by inflaming harangues and falsehoods. The voices of the supporters of the Union were drowned by the excited and specious arguments of the demagogue and his recital of the imaginary wrongs of the South, or terrorized into silence by lawless elements, encouraged by the leaders of the secession movement. The year closed amidst scenes portending evil to the Union. On January 9 the rebel batteries in Charleston harbor fired upon the *Star of the West*, a swift merchant steamer, chartered by the general government in New York City, and sent from there on the night of the 5th loaded with needed supplies and men for the relief of Maj. Anderson. They continued their fire after the captain had displayed the flag of the United States.

The news of this act aroused the people of this County and of the whole country. At 4:30 o'clock of the morning of April 12 a shot was fired from the mortar battery near old Fort Johnson, and a moment later fell upon Fort Sumter, under the flag of the United States. This shot, although not the first fired upon the national flag, inaugurated a conflict of gigantic proportions and far-reaching consequences, from which the United States emerged forever as a united Nation.

The bombardment of Fort Sumter was shortly followed by its surrender. The suddenness of the intelligence was followed by prompt and efficient action in every quarter. On April 15 the President issued his proclamation, calling for 75,000 men. The quota assigned this State consisted of seventeen regiments, each of 780 officers and enlisted men.

NIAGARA COUNTY'S RESPONSE TO THE CALL.

When the call was made for men to defend their country's flag, Niagara County responded nobly. Her loyal sons, from every vocation of life, left home and loved ones. The young, as well as the old, felt the insult that had been given, and were ready to resist it.

For four long years the struggle lasted, and then the Boys in Blue came marching home. And when the work was ended, the victory won, many came home to die, just waiting to hear the last gun sounded and once again to see the faces of the loved ones, that was all. They were satisfied and ready to go to their reward.

Niagara County may well be proud of her part, for she contributed her full share to the cause. Many, when their regiments were mustered out, before the close of the war,

again took up arms with other companies to continue service.

Notwithstanding their privations, there were others who suffered as much as they. The mothers, wives, sisters and sweethearts at home waited for news from the army, wishing, and yet dreading it, for who knew how many names would be on the list of missing or dead. Word would come that a son was wounded, or a brother stricken with a dread disease. Who suffered the most of them, the boy in the camp or the woman in the home? One was a physical pain, while the other a heartache, almost overwhelming in its violence.

Niagara's daughters deserve as much praise as her sons. Both were brave—one to stay at home and wait patiently for the outcome, the other to give up his life, if it were necessary, for his country on the battlefield.

OUR REGIMENTS AND COMPANIES.

Among the many different companies and regiments, in which so many of our citizens enlisted, there are some that are distinctively known as Niagara County organizations. I must refer to them more particularly than many of the others, as a great majority of our men were enrolled and mustered in them. Those to which particular reference is made are as follows: The Twenty-eighth and One Hundred and Fifty-first Infantry, the Eighth Heavy Artillery, Company M, First New York Light Artillery, Twelfth, Nineteenth, Twenty-third and Twenty-fifth Light Batteries of Artillery, and the Second Mounted Rifles.

TWENTY-EIGHTH INFANTRY.

Companies A, B, C, I and K, of the Twenty-eighth Infantry, known as the Niagara Rifles, or Scott's Life Guard were recruited at Lockport and Niagara Falls. Every town, village and hamlet in the County contributed its quota in these companies. The regiment was completed and mustered in the United States service, for two years, at Albany, May 22, 1861, under the command of Col. Dudley Donnelly, who fell, mortally wounded, at Cedar Mountain, Virginia, August 9, 1862, and died of his wounds August 15, 1862, at Culpeper, Virginia. There were enlisted in this regiment from the County 436 men, many of the recruits enlisting for three years. The three year men were, in May, 1863, transferred to the Sixtieth New York Volunteers.

The regiment left the State June 25, 1861; served at Washington, D. C., from June 28, 1861; in Butterfield's Brigade, Keim's Division, Patterson's Army, District of Pennsylvania, from July 8, 1861; in Stile's Brigade, Banks' Division, A. P., from October 15, 1861; in First Brigade, First, Williams' Division, Fifth Corps, A. P., from March 13, 1862; in same brigade and division, Department Shenandoah, from May, 1862; in First Brigade, First Division, Second Corps, A. Va., from June 26, 1862; in the First Brigade, First Division, Twelfth Corps, A. P., from September 12, 1862; and was honorably discharged and mustered out under Col. Edwin F. Brown, June 2, 1863, at Albany.

During its service, the regiment lost by death, killed in action, one officer, fifty-one enlisted men; of wounds received in action, one officer, fifteen enlisted men; of disease and other causes, forty-seven enlisted men; total, two officers, 113 enlisted men; aggregate, 115; of whom two enlisted men died in the hands of the enemy; and it took part in the following engagements, viz:

Near Martinsburg, West Virginia, July 11, 1861; in Virginia, opposite Point of Rocks, Maryland, August 5, 1861; Berlin, Maryland, September 18, 1861; Winchester,

Virginia, March 23, 1862; Montevideo, Virginia, March 27, 1862; near Columbia Furnace, Virginia, April 15, 1862; near Harrisonburg, Virginia, April 24, 1862; operations in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, May 23, 1862; Front Royal, May 23, 1862; Middletown, May 24, 1862; Newton, May 24, 1862; Winchester, May 25, 1862; Bunker Hill, May 25, 1862; near Luray, Virginia, June 30, 1862; Rappahannock, Virginia, July 25, 1862; Cedar Mountain, Virginia, August 9, 1862; Gen. Pope's campaign, Virginia, August 16-September 2, 1862; Rappahannock Station, August 23, 1862; Sulphur Springs, Virginia, August 23-24; Antietam, Maryland, September 17, 1862; Chancellorsville, Virginia, May 1-3, 1863.

COMPANY H, FORTY-NINTH REGIMENT.

Company H, Forty-ninth Infantry, was recruited at Lockport, and commanded by Capt. Charles H. Moss. It was mustered in the service for three years, September 18, 1861, at Buffalo. Eighty-nine men enlisted from the County.

The company left the State September 20, 1861; served at and near Washington, D. C., from September, 1861; in Third, Stevens', Brigade, Smith's Division, A. P., from October 15, 1861; in Third, Davidson's, Brigade, same division, Fourth Corps, A. P., from March 13, 1862; in Third Brigade, Second Division, Sixth Corps, A. P., from May, 1862; and it was honorably discharged and mustered out, under Col. George H. Selkirk, June 27, 1865, at Washington, D. C. It took part in the following engagements

Lewinsville, Virginia, October 13, 1861; Watt's Creek, Virginia, April 1, 1862; Watt's and Young's Mills, Virginia, April 4, 1862; Siege of Yorktown, Virginia, April 5-May 4, 1862; Lee's Mills, April 5, 1862; Lee's Mills, April 16, 1862; before Yorktown, April 26, 1862; Williamsburg, Virginia, May 5, 1862; Mechanicsville, Virginia, May 24, 1862; Golding's Farm, Virginia, June 5, 1862; New Bridge, Virginia, June 18, 1862; Seven Days' Battle, Virginia, June 25-July 2, 1862; Garnett's Farm, June 27, 1862; Garnett's and Golding's Farm, June 28, 1862; Savage Station, June 29, 1862; White Oak Swamp Bridge, June 30, 1862; Malvern Hill, July 1, 1862; Harrison's Landing, Virginia, July 3, 1862; Crampton Pass, Maryland, September 14, 1862; Antietam, Maryland, September 17-18, 1862; Fredericksburg, Virginia, December 11-15, 1862; Marye's Heights and Salem Church, Virginia, May 3-4, 1863; Deep Run Crossing, Virginia, June 5, 1863; Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, July 2-3, 1863; Fairfield Gap, Pennsylvania, July 6, 1863; Antietam and Marsh Run, Maryland, July 7, 1863; Funkstown, Maryland, July 13, 1863; Williamsport, Maryland, July 14, 1863; Rappahannock Station, Virginia, November 7, 1863; Mine Run campaign, Virginia, November 26-December 2, 1863; Wilderness, Virginia, May 5-7, 1864; Spotsylvania Court House, Virginia, May 8-21, 1864; Piney Branch Church, May 8, 1864; Landron's Farm, May 10, 1864; the Salient, May 12, 1864; North Anna, Virginia, May 22-26, 1864; Totopotomoy, Virginia, May 27-31, 1864; Cold Harbor, Virginia, May 31-June 1, 1864; before Petersburg, Virginia, June 18-July 9; December-April 2, 1864; Assault of Petersburg, Virginia, June 18-19, 1865; Gurley House, Weldon Railroad, Virginia, June 21-23, 1865; Fort Stevens, District Columbia, July 12-13, 1865; Charlestown, West Virginia, August 21, 1865; Opequon Creek, Virginia, September 13, 1865; Opequon, Virginia, September 19, 1865; Fisher's Hill, Virginia, September 22, 1865; Cedar Creek, Virginia, October 19, 1865; Petersburg Works, Virginia, March 25, 1865; Appomattox campaign, March 28-April 9, 1865;

Fall of Petersburg, April 2, 1865; Sailor's Creek, April 6, 1865; Appomattox Court House, April 9, 1865.

BATTERY M, FIRST ARTILLERY.

The next organization raised in the County was Battery M, First Artillery, commanded by Capt. George W. Cothran. It was mustered in the United States service for three years, at Rochester, October 14, 1861. In February, 1864, sixty-three of the original men re-enlisted for three years, or during the war. During its term of service there were enlisted in the company from the County 217 men. The battery served at and near Washington, D. C., from November, 1861; in Williams' Division, Fifth Corps, A. P., from February, 1862; in the army, Department of Shenandoah, from April, 1862; in the First Division, Second Corps, A. Va., from June 26, 1862; in the First Division, Twelfth Corps, A. P., from September, 1862; in the Artillery Brigade, Twelfth Corps, from April, 1863; in the First Division,



BRIG. GEN. DANIEL W. FLAGLER, U. S. ARMY.

Twelfth Corps, from November, 1863; in the First Division, Twentieth Corps, from April, 1864; and in the Artillery Brigade, Twentieth Corps, from July, 1864. It was honorably discharged and mustered out, commanded by Capt. Edward H. Underhill, June 23, 1865, at Rochester.

During its term of service the company lost, by death, killed in action, ten enlisted men; died of wounds, two; of disease, twenty; total, thirty. It took part in the following engagements:

Winchester, Virginia, March 26, 1862; Woodstock, Virginia, April 1, 1862; Near Edenburg, Virginia, April 2-14, 1862; Shenandoah, Virginia, April 19, 1862; McGaynesville, Virginia, April 27, 1862; Middletown, Virginia, May 24, 1862; Newtown, Virginia, May 24, 1862; Winchester, Virginia, May 25, 1862; Falling Water, Virginia, May 29, 1862; Cedar Mountain, Virginia, August 9, 1862; Beverly Ford, Virginia, August 23, 1862; Sulphur Springs, Virginia, August 24, 1862; Antietam, Maryland, September 17, 1862; near Ripton, Virginia, November 9, 1862; Chancellorsville, Virginia, May 1-3, 1863; Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, July 1-3, 1863; Resaca, Georgia, May 14-15, 1864; Dallas, Georgia, May 25 to June 4, 1864; Kenasaw Mountain, Georgia, June 9, 1864; Golgatha, Georgia, June 16-17, 1864; Nose Creek, Georgia, June 19, 1864; Culp's Farm, Georgia, June 22, 1864; Peach Tree Creek, Georgia, July 20, 1864; Before

Atlanta, Georgia, July 21 to August 21, 1864; Savannah, Georgia, December 11-20, 1864; Aversboro, North Carolina, March 16, 1865; Bentonville, North Carolina, March 19-20, 1865; Bennett House, North Carolina, April 26, 1865.

COMPANY G, SEVENTH CAVALRY.

Company G, Seventh Cavalry, was recruited at Lockport by Captain Timothy E. Ellsworth (now Senator from the Forty-fifth District), and mustered in the service of the United States, November 8, 1861, at Elmira, New York, ninety-two men enlisting from the County. The regiment, commanded by Col. Andrew J. Morrison, left the State November 23, 1861, and served near Washington, D. C., until March 31, 1862, when, not having been mounted, it was honorably discharged and mustered out, a majority of its members immediately enlisting again in other organizations.

EIGHTH CAVALRY VETERAN.

This regiment was organized, at Rochester, New York,



BRIG.-GEN. BENJAMIN FLAGLER.

Company E being recruited principally at Hartland and Roy-alton. It was mustered in the United States service for three years, November 23, 1861, 139 men enlisting in it during its term of service.

The regiment left the State November 29, 1861, and served in the defense of Washington, D. C., from December, 1861; in the Department of the Shenandoah from March, 1862; in the Middle Department, Eighth Corps, from June, 1862; in the Fifth Brigade, Pleasanton's Division of Cavalry, A. P., mounted, from August, 1862; in the First Brigade, same division, from December, 1862; in the First Brigade, First Division, Cavalry Corps, A. P., from February, 1863; in the Second Brigade, Third Division, Cavalry, A. P., from March, 1864; in the Army of the Shenandoah from October, 1864, and with the Army of the Potomac from March, 1865.

The regiment, commanded by Col. Edmund M. Pope, was mustered out and honorably discharged June 27, 1865, at Alexandria, Virginia.

TWENTY-THIRD INDEP'T BATTERY, LT. ARTILLERY (VETERANS).

This battery, originally Battery A, Rocket, Battalion of Artillery, was principally recruited in this County, organized at Albany, New York, and there mustered in the service of the United States for three years, December 6,

1861. At the expiration of its term of service, the men entitled thereto were discharged and the battery continued in the service. During its term of service 196 men joined it from the County.

It left the State December 9, 1861, commanded by Capt. Alfred Ransom, and served at Washington, D. C., from December, 1861; in North Carolina, and the Eighteenth Corps from April 23, 1862; in the Second Brigade, Second Division, Department North Carolina, from June, 1862; at Newbern, North Carolina, from July, 1862; at Morehead City, North Carolina, from May, 1863; with the Cavalry Division, Eighteenth Corps, from December, 1862; in the district of Pamlico, Department North Carolina, and in the District of North Carolina, Department of Virginia and North Carolina, from May, 1863; with the Cavalry Division, Gen. Sherman's forces, from April 1, 1865. July 14, 1865, the battery, commanded by Capt. Samuel Kittinger, Jr., was honorably discharged and mustered out at Fort Porter, Buffalo, having during its service lost, by death or disease and other causes, forty-six enlisted men; and taken part in the following engagements, viz:

Expedition from Newbern to Goldsboro, December 11-20, 1862; Kinston, December 14, 1862; Olive Station and Goshen Swamp, Dec. 16, 1862; White Hall Bridge, December 16, 1862; Thompson's Bridge, December 17, 1862; Goldsboro Bridge, December 17, 1862; Newburn, North Carolina, March 14, 1863; Blount's Creek, North Carolina, April 9, 1863; near Greenville, North Carolina, November 25, 1863; Greenville, North Carolina, December 30, 1863; Washington, North Carolina, April 25-28, 1864; Campaign of the Carolinas, March-April 26, 1865; Bennett House, April 26, 1865.

TWELFTH INDEPENDENT BATTERY.

The Twelfth Independent Battery was recruited principally in Newfane, Wilson, Lockport and Somerset, by Capt. Walter M. Shaw, of Newfane, and was mustered in the United States service, for three years, January 14, 1862, at Albany. During its term of service sixty men joined it from the County.

It left the State on January 17, 1862, and served at and near Washington, D. C., and in the Artillery Camp of Instruction, from January, 1862; in the Twenty-second Corps from February, 1863; in the Artillery Brigade, Third Corps, A. P., from July 7, 1863; in the Second Brigade, Artillery Reserve, A. P., from March, 1864; in the Artillery Brigade, Second Corps, from May 18, 1864; and in the Artillery Reserve, A. P., from September, 1864. Commanded by Capt. Charles A. Clark, it was honorably discharged and mustered out at Albany, June 14, 1865; having lost by death, killed in action, one officer, four enlisted men; of disease and other causes, fourteen enlisted men; total, one officer, eighteen enlisted men; aggregating nineteen; of whom three enlisted men died in the hands of the enemy. The battery took part in the following engagements, viz:

Wapping Heights, Virginia, July 23, 1863; Kelly's Ford, Virginia, November 7, 1863; Mine Run campaign, Virginia, November 26-December 2, 1863; Locust Grove, Virginia, November 27, 1863; Wilderness, Virginia, May 5-7, 1864; Spotsylvania Court House, Virginia, May 8-21, 1864; Landron House, Virginia, May 18, 1864; North Anna, Virginia, May 22-26, 1864; Totopotomoy, Virginia, May 27-31, 1864; Cold Harbor, Virginia, June 1-12, 1864; before Petersburg, Virginia, June 15-April 2, 1864; Assault of Petersburg, Virginia, June 15-19, 1865; Weldon Railroad, Virginia, June 21-23, 1865; Deep Bottom, Virginia, July 27-29,

1865; Ream's Station, Virginia, August 25, 1865; Fall of Petersburg, Virginia, April 2, 1865.

THE EIGHTH HEAVY ARTILLEERY.

Col. Peter A. Porter, of Niagara Falls, on July 7, 1862, received authority to recruit a regiment of infantry in the Counties of Niagara, Orleans and Genesee. It was organized, at Lockport, as the One Hundred and Twenty-ninth Infantry, and mustered in the service of the United States for three years, August 22, 1862. It was converted into a regiment of artillery December 19, 1862, and designated the Eighth Heavy Artillery. Companies B, D, E and F were recruited within the County and commanded by Captains Joel B. Baker, James Maginiss, Joseph W. Holmes and Ashley P. Hawkins, respectively. Two additional companies were organized, at Lockport, in December, 1863, and January, 1864, for one and three years. The total number of men enrolled in this regiment from the County was 726.

The regiment, ten companies, left the State August 23, 1862, and served as heavy artillery and infantry at Baltimore, Maryland, and vicinity from August 27, 1862; at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, from July 10, 1863; at Baltimore, Maryland, and vicinity from August 3, 1863, in the Middle Department, Eighth Corps. Companies L and M joined in February, 1864, and the regiment served in Tyler's Division, Second Corps, from May 17, 1864; in the Fourth Brigade, Second Division, Second Corps, from May 29, 1864; and in the Second Brigade, Second Division, Second Corps, from June 26, 1864.

June 5, 1865, Companies A to K were, under the command of Lieut. Col. Joseph W. Holmes, mustered out and honorably discharged at Munson's Hill, Virginia; the men not discharged with their respective companies were transferred, those of Companies G, H, I and K to the Fourth New York Volunteer Artillery, and those of Companies A, B, C, D, E and F, and also Companies L and M, to the Tenth New York Volunteer Infantry, of which the men of Companies A, D and F formed Company K; those of B, C and E Company I; Company L became Company H and M Company G.

During its service the regiment lost by death, killed in action, ten officers, 199 enlisted men; of wounds received in action, ten officers, 145 enlisted men; of disease and other causes, four officers, 302 enlisted men; total, twenty-four officers, 646 enlisted men; aggregate, 670; of whom one officer and 113 enlisted men died in the hands of the enemy; and it took part in the following engagements, viz:

Spotsylvania Court House, Virginia, May 17-21, 1864; Harris House, May 19, 1864; North Anna, Virginia, May 22-26, 1864; Totopotomoy, Virginia, May 27-31, 1864; Cold Harbor, Virginia, June 1-12, 1864; second assault, June 3, 1864; Before Petersburg, Virginia, June 15-April 2, 1864; assault of Petersburg, Virginia, June 15-19, 1865; Weldon Railroad, Virginia, June 21-23, 1865; Deep Bottom, Virginia, July 27-29, 1865; Strawberry Plains, Virginia, August 14-18, 1865; Ream's Station, Virginia, August 25, 1864; Boydton Plank Road, Virginia, October 27-28, 1864; Dabney's Mills, Virginia, February 5-7, 1865; Petersburg Works, Fort Stedman, Virginia, March 25, 1865; Appomattox campaign, Virginia, March 28-April 9, 1865; White Oak Ridge, March 29-31, 1865; Fall of Petersburg, April 2, 1865; High Bridge, April 7, 1865; Farmville, April 7, 1865; Appomattox Court House, April 9, 1865.

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY FIRST INFANTRY.

On August 20, 1862, Col. Franklin Spalding, of Niagara Falls, succeeded by Col. William Emerson, received authority to recruit this regiment. The companies were

recruited as follows: B at Niagara Falls, F and I at Lockport, G in the counties of Niagara and Orleans, H in the County at large, and K principally at Somerset, Newfane and Lockport, 506 enlisting from the County. It was organized at Lockport and mustered in the service of the United States, for three years, October 22, 1862.

The regiment left the State October 23, 1862; it served in the Middle Department, Eighth Corps, at and near Baltimore, Maryland, from October, 1862; in West Virginia, in the Third Separate Brigade, Eighth Corps, from February, 1863; at South Mountain, Maryland, in June, 1863; in Third Brigade, Third Division, Third Corps, from July 10, 1863; in the First Brigade, Third Division, Third Corps, from August, 1863; in the First Brigade, Third Division, Sixth Corps, from April, 1864; and, under Lieut. Col. Charles Bogardus, it was honorably discharged and mustered out June 26, 1865, near Washington, D. C.

During its service the regiment lost by death, killed in action, five officers, seventy-five enlisted men; of wounds received in action, twenty-six enlisted men; of disease and



COMMANDER FRANKLIN J. DRAKE, U. S. N.

other causes, one officer, ninety-nine enlisted men; total, six officers, 200 enlisted men; aggregate, 206; of whom twenty-three enlisted men died in the hands of the enemy; and it took part in the following engagements, viz:

Wapping Heights, Virginia, July 20, 1863; McLean's Ford, Virginia, October 15, 1863; Catlett's Station, Virginia, October 15, 1863; Kelly's Ford, Virginia, November 7, 1863; Mine Run campaign, Virginia, November 26-December 2, 1863; Locust Grove, November 27, 1863; Wilderness, Virginia, May 5-7, 1864; Spotsylvania Court House, Virginia, May 8-21, 1864; North Anna, Virginia, May 22-26, 1864; Totopotomoy, Virginia, May 27-30, 1864; Cold Harbor, Virginia, May 31-June 12, 1864; first assault, June 1, 1864; second assault, June 3, 1864; before Petersburg, Virginia, June 17-July 5; December-April 2, 1865; assaults of Petersburg, Virginia, June 17-19, 1864; Weldon Railroad, Virginia, June 21-23, 1864; Monocacy, Maryland, July 9, 1864; Charlestown, West Virginia, August 21, 1864; Lee-

town, Virginia, August 28-29, 1864; Smithfield, Virginia, September 3, 1864; Opequon, Virginia, September 19, 1864; Fisher's Hill, Virginia, September 22, 1864; Mt. Jackson, September 24, 1864; near Strasburg, Virginia, October 14, 1864; Cedar Creek, Virginia, October 19, 1864; Petersburg Works, Virginia, March 25, 1865; Appomattox campaign, Virginia, March 28-April 9, 1865; Fall of Petersburg, April 2, 1865; Sailor's Creek, April 6, 1865; Appomattox Court House, April 9, 1865.

NINETEENTH INDEPENDENT BATTERY, LIGHT ARTILLERY.

This battery was recruited at Lockport, Alabama, Wilson and Porter; organized and mustered in the service of the United States for three years, October 27, 1862, at Elmira. It left the State, commanded by Capt. W. H. Stahl, October 29, 1862, and served at and near Washington, D. C., and in the Artillery Camp of Instruction and Twenty-second Corps, from November, 1862; at Suffolk, Virginia, Seventh Corps, from April 19, 1863; in the defense of Washington, Twenty-second Corps, from June, 1863; with the Second Division, Ninth Corps, from March, 1864; in the Artillery Brigade, Ninth Corps, from July, 1864; with the First Division, Ninth Corps, in August, 1864. One hundred and ninety men en-



CAPTAIN D. L. PITCHER.

listed from the County in the battery during its term of service. The battery was honorably discharged and mustered out, under the command of Capt. Edward W. Rogers, June 13, 1865, at Elmira, having, during its service, lost by death, killed in action, nine enlisted men; of wounds received in action, five enlisted men; of disease and other causes, one officer, seventeen enlisted men; total, one officer, thirty-one enlisted men; aggregate, thirty-two; and taken part in the following engagements, viz:

Siege of Suffolk, Virginia, April 19-May 4, 1863; Edenton Road, Virginia, June 11, 1863; Wilderness, Virginia, May 5-7, 1864; Spotsylvania Court House, Virginia, May 8-21, 1864; Ny River, May 12, 1864; Landron House, May 18, 1864; North Anna, Virginia, May 22-26, 1864; Totopotomoy, Virginia, May 27-31, 1864; Cold Harbor, Virginia, June 1-12, 1864; before Petersburg, Virginia, June 16-April 2, 1864; assault of Petersburg, Virginia, June 16-17, 1865; Mine Explosion, Virginia, July 30, 1865; Weldon Road, Virginia, August 18-21, 1865; Poplar Grove Church, Virginia, September 30-October 2, 1865; Hatcher's Run, Virginia, October 27-28, 1865; Fort Stedman, Virginia, March 25, 1865; Fall of Petersburg, Virginia, April 2, 1865.

SECOND MOUNTED RIFLES.

July 2, 1863, Col. John Fisk received authority to raise this regiment. It was organized at Lockport and Buffalo, and mustered in the United States service for three years, from October 31, 1863, to February 13, 1864. It was recruited in different parts of the State, Niagara County furnishing 382 men, in Companies A, B, C, E, F, and I.

The regiment left the State in March, 1864, and served as infantry at and near Washington, D. C., in Twenty-second Corps; in the Provisional Brigade, First Division, Ninth Corps, from May 15, 1864; in First Brigade, Second Division, Ninth Corps, A. P., from June 11, 1864; in the Second Brigade, Second Division, Ninth Corps, from September, 1864; mounted in the Third Brigade, Second Division, Cavalry, A. P., from November 16, 1864; in Department of Virginia from May, 1865.

Commanded by Lieut. Col. Joseph H. Wood, the regiment was honorably discharged and mustered out August 10, 1865, at Petersburg, Virginia, having during its service lost by death, killed in action, six officers, sixty-eight enlisted men; of wounds received in action, two officers, twenty-nine enlisted men; of disease and other causes, one officer, 112 enlisted men; total, nine officers, 209 enlisted men; aggregate, 218; of whom twenty enlisted men died in the hands of the enemy.

It, or portions of it, took part in the following engagements, viz:

Spotsylvania Court House, Virginia, May 15-21, 1864; Landron House, Virginia, May 18, 1864; North Anna, Virginia, May 22-26, 1864; Totopotomoy, Virginia, May 27-31, 1864; Cold Harbor, Virginia, June 1-12, 1864; Bethesda Church, June 2, 1864; before Petersburg, Virginia, June 16-April 2, 1864; assault of Petersburg, Virginia, June 16-19, 1865; Mine Explosion, Virginia, July 30, 1865; Weldon Road, Virginia, August 18-21, 1865; Poplar Spring Church, Virginia, September 30-October 2, 1865; Hatcher's Run, Virginia, October 27-28, 1865; Duval Station, Virginia, December 1, 1864; Hatcher Run, Virginia, December 8-9, 1864; Nottoway Station, Virginia, December 10, 1864; Hatcher's Run, Virginia, February 5-7, 1865; Appomattox campaign, Virginia, March 28-April 9, 1865; Dinwiddie Court House, March 30-31, 1865; Five Forks, April 1, 1865; fall of Petersburg, April 2, 1865; Jettersville, April 4, 1865; Jarrett's Station, April 5, 1865; Sailor's Creek, April 6, 1865; Deatonville Road, April 6, 1865; Farmville, April 7, 1865; Pamplin Station, April 8, 1865; Appomattox Court House, April 9, 1865.

SOLDIERS ENLISTED FROM NIAGARA COUNTY.

During the war, from April, 1861 to 1865, there were enlisted and mustered in the United States service from the County 4,587 men, in the following organizations. The figures show the number of men in each:

Company M, First Light Artillery.....	217
Twelfth Light Battery.....	60
Thirteenth Light Battery.....	5
Seventeenth Light Battery.....	12
Nineteenth Light Battery.....	190
Twentieth Light Battery.....	3
Twenty-third Light Battery.....	196
Twenty-fourth Light Battery.....	1
Twenty-fifth Light Battery.....	54
Twenty-eighth Light Battery.....	3
Thirty-third Light Battery.....	27
Fourth Heavy Artillery.....	2
Sixth Heavy Artillery.....	7

Eighth Heavy Artillery.....	726
Ninth Heavy Artillery.....	13
Eleventh Heavy Artillery.....	5
Fourteenth Heavy Artillery.....	36
Sixteenth Heavy Artillery.....	20
First Cavalry.....	4
Third Cavalry.....	68
Seventh Cavalry.....	92
Eighth Cavalry.....	92
Ninth Cavalry.....	18
Tenth Cavalry.....	45
Eleventh Cavalry.....	6
Twelfth Cavalry.....	8
Thirteenth Cavalry.....	9
Fourteenth Cavalry.....	2
Fifteenth Cavalry.....	35
Sixteenth Cavalry.....	3
Twenty-first Cavalry.....	3
Twenty-second Cavalry.....	5
First Mounted Rifles.....	2
Second Mounted Rifles.....	382
First Dragoons.....	9
Fiftieth Engineers.....	9
Twenty-eighth Infantry.....	436
Thirty-third Infantry.....	1
Forty-fourth Infantry.....	7
Forty-ninth Infantry.....	89
Fifty-third Infantry.....	93
Fifty-sixth Infantry.....	1
Fifty-eighth Infantry.....	2
Sixty-first Infantry.....	1
Sixty-fifth Infantry.....	52
Seventy-eighth Infantry.....	10
Eighty-fifth Infantry.....	1
Ninety-first Infantry.....	19
Ninety-fourth Infantry.....	2
Ninety-sixth Infantry.....	13
Ninety-seventh infantry.....	1
One Hundredeth Infantry.....	31
One Hundred and Second Infantry.....	3
One Hundred and Fifth Infantry.....	148
One Hundred and Eighth Infantry.....	2
One Hundred and Tenth Infantry.....	1
One Hundred and Twelfth Infantry.....	1
One Hundred and Sixteenth Infantry.....	4
One Hundred and Seventeenth Infantry.....	1
One Hundred and Twenty-first Infantry.....	1
One Hundred and Twenty-fourth Infantry.....	2
One Hundred and Twenty-fifth Infantry.....	1
One Hundred and Twenty-sixth Infantry.....	1
One Hundred and Thirty-second Infantry.....	36
One Hundred and Thirty-Sixth Infantry.....	21
One Hundred and Fortieth Infantry.....	3
One Hundred and Forty-sixth Infantry.....	1
One Hundred and Forty-ninth Infantry.....	2
One Hundred and Fifty-first Infantry.....	506
One Hundred and Fifty-fifth Infantry.....	89
One Hundred and Fifty-sixth Infantry.....	1
One Hundred and Fifty-seventh Infantry.....	1
One Hundred and Sixty-fourth Infantry.....	56
One Hundred and Seventieth Infantry.....	1
One Hundred and Seventy-eighth Infantry.....	4
One Hundred and Seventy-ninth Infantry.....	27
One Hundred and Eighty-fourth Infantry.....	2
One Hundred and Eighty-seventh Infantry.....	31

One Hundred and Eighty-eighth Infantry.....	3
One Hundred and Ninety-fourth Infantry.....	87
First United States, Colored.....	8
Sixth United States, Colored.....	31
Fifteenth United States, Colored.....	3
Twentieth United States, Colored.....	1
One Hundred and Sixth, Colored.....	82
Veteran Reserve Corps.....	2
Thirty-fifth Independent Company.....	45
Regular Army.....	5
United States Navy.....	9
Substitutes.....	108
Drafted men.....	55
Regiments not known.....	27

This list does not contain the names of all the men from the County, who enlisted, as a great many went to Rochester, Buffalo, Albany and other places, where the regiments went into camp before leaving the State, and enlisted there, they being credited to the place where the companies were camped, and not to the County.

OUR FALLEN HEROES.

Justice to Niagara County in the war could not be done if the fallen were passed over, hence a list of the killed and dead has been prepared, as nearly correct as lies in the writer's power.

Among the first of Niagara's sons to fall was Col. Dudley Donnelly, who led his regiment in the bloody battle of Cedar Mountain, August 9, 1862, and died on August 15, 1862, at Culpeper, Virginia, of the wounds received in that battle. His career in the army was short, but one that was full of glory.

An officer, of whom the writer can scarcely praise too highly, is Col. Peter A. Porter, of his own regiment, Eighth Heavy Artillery. Born and reared in the lap of luxury, and at the outbreak of the war holding a civil position, he left all and laid his life on his nation's altar. He most courageously led his regiment in the battle of Cold Harbor, where the little band was cut to pieces. He, too, was sacrificed, seven bullets entered his body and cut off that life, full of promise for the future. Truly, one of nature's noblemen fell that day, never to rise again. And yet today he is remembered and loved and honored in his home even as the greatest of America's soldiers.

Roll of Honor, Niagara Dead, in the War, 1861 to 1865.

TWENTY-EIGHTH INFANTRY.

Donnelly, Col. Dudley, died August 15, 1862.
Bapp, Lewis, died January 7, 1862.
Barwick, George, died December 5, 1862.
Bulmen, Dewitt C., killed August 9, 1862.
Clark, Henry, died March 30, 1862.
Connor, William, killed August 9, 1862.
Cook, George M., died August 29, 1862.
Crampton, William H., died March 17, 1862.
Davis, Daniel H., died May 14, 1862.
Farr, Samuel, killed August 9, 1862.
Gilbert, John, killed August 9, 1862.
Good, George W., killed August 9, 1862.
Griffin, John, killed August 9, 1862.
Haight, Charles R., killed August 9, 1862.
Hill, Thomas, died August 17, 1862.
Houghton, Edward, killed August 9, 1862.
Hyne, Robert H., died May 17, 1863.

Johnston, John, died September 10, 1862.
Kilberer, Michael, killed August 9, 1862.
Lamphier, Edward H., died November 19, 1862.
Lillis, James, died October 17, 1861.
Luke, Hiram, killed August 9, 1862.
Mason, James, died October 3, 1863.
McMahon, Martin, killed August 9, 1862.
Milly, Benjamin, killed August 9, 1862.
Miner, Selinous A., killed August 9, 1862.
Otis, Edward, died June 26, 1862.
Patrick, Marcellus, died May 25, 1862.
Pickard, Charles L., killed August 9, 1862.
Roberts, Stephen C., killed August 9, 1862.
Rogers, Albert, died April 23, 1862.
Sly, Isaac, killed August 9, 1862.
Sprout, Adj. Charles P., killed August 9, 1862.
Stacy, John, killed August 9, 1862.
Sullivan, Dennis, killed August 9, 1862.
Taylor, Malcomb G., killed August 9, 1862.
Thall, Milton, died February 16, 1862.
Tucker, George W., killed August 9, 1862.
Turner, James, died November 17, 1862.
Wheeler, Isaac W., died August 19, 1862.
Williams, Samuel, killed August 9, 1862.
Woolever, Hixon, killed August 9, 1862.
Wright, James F., died February 27, 1863.
Young, William D., died September 1, 1862.

BATTERY M. FIRST ARTILLERY.

Barry, Garrett, killed May 3, 1863.
Cardinal, Joseph M., died March 19, 1863.
Dailey, Warren B., died August 22, 1864.
Elliott, David F., killed May 3, 1863.
Frost, George, died May 26, 1862.
Hatch, Charles, killed June 22, 1864.
Hatch, Oliver W., died in hospital, —.
Holden, Ezra, killed June 16, 1864.
Houstater, Henry F., died October 29, 1862.
Lane, Micheal, killed May 3, 1863.
Le Van, Clarence H., killed May 3, 1863.
Marvis, Christopher S., died March 25, 1863.
Miller, Peter, died May 25, 1862.
Munsees, Samuel F., died in hospital —, 1862.
Outwater, Simeon, killed April 29, 1864.
Perry, John H., died September 11, 1864.
Phelps, Mandeville, died in hospital —.
Prentice, Lawrence, died July 24, 1864.
Rosebush, Henry, died February 9, 1863.
Sanford, Charles, died July 27, 1862.
Sowl, George B., died November 6, 1862.
Van Bergen, James, died July 4, 1862.
Washburn, Hiram H., missing May 3, 1863, supposed killed.

TWENTY-THIRD BATTERY.

Bliss, Albert D., died April 5, 1863.
Briggs, Edmund, died January 30, 1862.
Brutis, William M., died February 7, 1862.
Campbell, S. G., died October 1, 1864.
Davenport, George W., died November 18, 1864.
Gilbert, John W., died May 31, 1865.
Harrington, Henry, died August 27, 1862.
Harriott, Robert, died October 8, 1864.
Hollenbeck, Milo, died July 5, 1862.
Karchner, Levi, died October 8, 1864.
Knowles, William E., died October 12, 1864.

Krant, Abram, died October 7, 1864.
 Leet, Edwin, died October 8, 1864.
 Le Van, Lyman A., died October 13, 1864.
 Miller, Jacob, died July 13, 1863.
 Miller, John A., died July 3, 1862.
 Moore, James B., died March 3, 1864.
 Owens, Samuel, died January 12, 1864.
 Perry, Charles A., died October 9, 1863.
 Pettit, John, died October 8, 1864.
 Pike, Thomas, died August 16, 1863.
 Porter, Daniel S., died December 8, 1864.
 Tryon, Thomas, died September 25, 1864.
 Warren, Orsemus, died December 14, 1862.
 Williams, George, died October 26, 1864.
 Williams, Isaac, died March 7, 1862.
 Werden, Chester A., died August 7, 1862.
 Wright, John, died January 24, 1862.

NINETEENTH BATTERY.

Atchinson, Cyrus F., died November 26, 1862.
 Bellinger, Werner, died June 9, 1864.
 Brawker, Jacob, killed May 12, 1864.
 Bush, William, died November 9, 1862.
 Carter, John W., died July 20, 1863.
 Everhart, Jeremiah, died February 20, 1865.
 Golias, Joseph, died June 19, 1864.
 Goodrich, Jared, died May 27, 1864.
 Goodspeed, Therson, killed May 12, 1864.
 Hall, John, killed May 12, 1864.
 Hovey, W. Scott, died December 6, 1862.
 King, Michael, killed March 25, 1865.
 Lansom, Richard, died October 1, 1863.
 Lewis, David O., killed May 12, 1864.
 McCoy, George N., died December 9, 1862.
 McCroroy, William, killed May 12, 1864.
 Morton, Peter, died June 3, 1864.
 Muir, Christian, died September 19, 1864.
 Pierce, William D., died July 21, 1864.
 Schurr, Frederick, died September 4, 1863.
 Sherwood, Lockwood S., killed July 29, 1864.
 Stahl, William H., died September 15, 1863.
 Warren, Newel S., killed May 5, 1863.
 Watters, Delevan C., died November 7, 1864.
 Weaver, George H., killed May 12, 1864.
 White, Nimrod, died September 27, 1863.

TWELFTH BATTERY.

Harris, Arnold, killed August 25, 1864.
 King, John, died June 20, 1864.
 Lefever, Jesse, died prisoner of war.
 Margnot, Andrew, died March 14, 1862.
 Nerber, Peter, died September 5, 1862.
 Van Hoesen, Brainard, died October, 1864.

TWENTY-FIFTH BATTERY.

Erne, Joseph, died August 12, 1862.
 Farrell, Patrick, died December 22, 1864.
 Harrington, James S., died November 28, 1864.
 Hills, Myron S., died February 5, 1864.
 Irwin, Thomas, died June 8, 1864.
 Smith, William, died September 17, 1863.
 Strain, George O., killed April 9, 1864.
 Waters, Daniel G., died September 1, 1864.
 Wilkinson, William, killed April 9, 1864.

THIRTY-THIRD BATTERY.

Burdan, Henry, died November 13, 1863.

Snyder, Amos A., died February 15, 1864.
 Starkers, Marcus, died October 16, 1863.

THIRD CAVALRY.

Harrington, Moses, died of wounds March 5, 1863.
 Kemp, Samuel B., died of wounds March 15, 1863.

EIGHTH HEAVY ARTILLERY.

Col. Peter A. Porter, killed June 3, 1864.
 Second Lieut. Fayette S. Brown, killed June 3, 1864.
 Second Lieut. Arthur L. Chase, died June 7, 1864.
 Second Lieut. Robert Glass, died June 27, 1864.
 Capt. George T. Hoyt, died July 5, 1864.
 First Lieut. George W. Rector, Jr., died October 29, 1864.
 First Lieut. Henry R. Swan, died June 14, 1864.
 Amsley, Frank, died January 18, 1865.
 Armstrong, Hiram, died April 24, 1863.
 Armstrong, Jacob M., died May 1, 1864.
 Babcock, Jeremiah, died April 22, 1864.
 Bailey, Edward, died November 8, 1864.
 Bailey, Robert, died a prisoner of war.
 Baker, Harvey A., killed June 22, 1864.
 Banman, William, Jr., killed June 3, 1864.
 Banton, Charles H., died February 25, 1865.
 Bardwell, H. E., killed June 3, 1864.
 Barker, Summer G., killed June 22, 1864.
 Barnes, Wesley P., died June 19, 1864.
 Bayhod, Christian, died September 19, 1864.
 Beach, Augustus, died October 7, 1864.
 Behrn, Charles, died February 25, 1865.
 Bennett, Albinus, killed June 3, 1864.
 Bennett, William J., died July 3, 1864.
 Bills, Delos, died a prisoner of war.
 Bishop, Andrew J., killed June 3, 1864.
 Bowman, Samuel, killed March 25, 1865.
 Brewer, James, killed June 3, 1864.
 Bruyare, Charles, killed February 8, 1865.
 Brodock, Henry, died September 23, 1863.
 Brouck, Henry W., killed August 25, 1864.
 Brown, Thomas, died November 16, 1862.
 Bryan, Thomas S., died December 6, 1864.
 Burroughs, Charles, died August 12, 1863.
 Bush, William, died while a prisoner of war.
 Burt, Thompson, died while a prisoner of war.
 Buton, Frederick, died October 7, 1864.
 Case, Andrew J., died while a prisoner of war.
 Castellon, John, died July 13, 1864.
 Chase, George C., died July 20, 1864.
 Clancy, William H., died March 29, 1864.
 Coe, Elwood, killed June 3, 1864.
 Coe, Nelson A., died June 12, 1864.
 Comstock, Adelbert, killed June 3, 1864.
 Cooper, George W., died February 12, 1864.
 Cornell, Job, killed June 3, 1864.
 Culver, Daniel D., killed May 19, 1864.
 Dawson, George, died November 23, 1864.
 Day, George W., killed June 3, 1864.
 Dean, Allen P., died while a prisoner of war.
 Dean, Samuel, died January 15, 1865.
 Deitz, Albert, died June 23, 1864.
 Dennison, Michael, died June 4, 1864.
 Doolittle, Alfred, died July 8, 1864.
 Doreing, Christian, killed June 22, 1864.
 Doyle, Patrick M., killed October 27, 1864.
 Drake, George, died June 8, 1864.

- Duffy, Hugh, killed June 16, 1864.
 Duggan, Dennis, killed June 3, 1864.
 Elton, Washington, killed June 3, 1864.
 Evans, William H., died November 20, 1864.
 Faulkner, Richard, died January 29, 1865.
 Fox, Alexander, died February 7, 1863.
 Fraling, Henry, killed June 16, 1864.
 Gay, Hiram, died July 20, 1864.
 Gibson, James P., killed June 3, 1864.
 Good, Remont W., died October 18, 1863.
 Gowett, James, killed June 3, 1864.
 Green, Edward, died September 16, 1864.
 Green, James F., killed March 1, 1863.
 Hall, William, died June 18, 1864.
 Hamilton, Simeon, died December 3, 1864.
 Harris, Alpheus, died September 26, 1864.
 Hart, Charles M., killed June 3, 1864.
 Hasenback, William, died July, 1864.
 Hawkins, William J., died June 22, 1864.
 Helmer, Thomas, killed June 3, 1864.
 Herming, Mortan, killed June 3, 1864.
 Hertsberg, Otto, killed April 14, 1865.
 Hill, George W., killed June 22, 1864.
 Howell, John, killed June 3, 1864.
 Hudur, Merrick V., killed June 16, 1864.
 Ingalls, Harrison, died February 2, 1865.
 Ireland, William, killed June 3, 1864.
 Jacobs, Joseph, killed June 3, 1864.
 Jacobs, William H., died June 23, 1864.
 Johnson, George W., killed June 3, 1864.
 Johnson, Hiram, died May 27, 1865.
 Jones, George, killed June 3, 1864.
 Kent, John W., killed June 3, 1864.
 Kinney, Adelbert, died August 28, 1864.
 Knust, John, died a prisoner of war.
 Kohn, Mathias, died June 16, 1864.
 Kolby, Hannis, killed June 16, 1864.
 Lacy, Daniel R., killed June 16, 1864.
 Lapworth, Andrew, killed June 3, 1864.
 Layland, Alfred, killed June 11, 1864.
 Longstaff, John W., died October 22, 1864.
 Luppie, Samuel, died October 10, 1864.
 Lynch, Martin, killed August 25, 1864.
 Mabon, Alexander, died June 8, 1864.
 Martin, Carl, killed May 19, 1864.
 Martin, Walter L., died February 25, 1865.
 Maynard, Gus L., killed June 3, 1864.
 McCarthy, George A., died January 25, 1864.
 McCoy, Alonzo C., died January 7, 1864.
 McCollum, Melville C., died while a prisoner of war.
 McMaster, George A., died September 29, 1864.
 Mehwaladt, Charles, killed June 3, 1864.
 Mehwaladt, Herman, died June 26, 1864.
 Mercig, Peter, killed June 22, 1864.
 Merwin, Andrew J., died January 20, 1865.
 Miller, Andrew, died December 13, 1862.
 Miller, Charles, died June 11, 1864.
 Moore, James, died November 13, 1862.
 Morehouse, David J., died June 20, 1864.
 Morley, Michael, died April 23, 1865.
 Morris, Dillman, died June 20, 1864.
 Morrison, Frank E., killed June 3, 1864.
 Mosier, Francis B., died July 18, 1864.
 Munn, Ethan, died April 3, 1863.
 Murray, James, died June 16, 1864.
 Nash, Wright, killed June 16, 1864.
 Niles, Lucien J., killed June 3, 1864.
 Nixon, William, died November 15, 1864.
 Northrup, Charles R., killed August 29, 1864.
 Nye, G. Francis, died March 29, 1865.
 Nye, T. Marshall, killed June 22, 1864.
 Penoyer, Egbert, died June 18, 1864.
 Perry, Edward, died a prisoner of war.
 Patterson, Nathan G., killed June 3, 1864.
 Phipps, Joseph, died August 9, 1864.
 Pierce, Edward P., died September 16, 1864.
 Plant, D. S., killed June 30, 1863.
 Power, Charles C., killed June 3, 1864.
 Proper, James, died November 8, 1864.
 Pyle, Lyman A., died September 20, 1864.
 Rafter, Frank B., killed October 20, 1862.
 Reafsail, Henry, died January 4, 1865.
 Rittenburg, Charles, killed June 3, 1864.
 Robb, Alexander, died June 8, 1864.
 Robinson, D. W., died June 24, 1864.
 Robinson, Emmett, died October 20, 1864.
 Root, John, killed June 3, 1864.
 Rose, Benjamin J., killed June 3, 1864.
 Saddleson, William H., killed June 3, 1864.
 Sewart, Ernest, died February 27, 1864.
 Sherman, Charles J., died June 26, 1864.
 Smith, Henry L., died June 16, 1864.
 Smith, Lewis, died November 18, 1864.
 Snyder Merville, died September 3, 1864.
 Southard, Daniel, died December 3, 1864.
 Spencer, H. C., died February 25, 1865.
 Steels, W. W., killed June 3, 1864.
 Stephens, George A., died October 4, 1864.
 Stewart, George, killed June 22, 1864.
 Stimson, J. W., died February 25, 1864.
 Stoffin, Joseph, died March 15, 1864.
 Stone, W. J., killed June 3, 1864.
 Storrow, Joseph, killed June 3, 1864.
 Strasburg, William, died July 1, 1864.
 Stutar, Jacob, died November 23, 1864.
 Stuffin, Madison, died August 13, 1864.
 Southerland, John, killed June 16, 1864.
 Swift, Martin L., died June 12, 1864.
 Kenny, Asa, died August 11, 1864.
 Thompson, Wallace, died June 23, 1864.
 Horn, Elias, killed May 19, 1864.
 Thornton, William, died February 14, 1864.
 Tinder, E. J., killed June 3, 1864.
 Tulloh, Daniel, killed June 30, 1863.
 Turner, Robert, died September 4, 1864.
 Van Tassell, Frederick, killed June 3, 1864.
 Vedder, John W., died November 20, 1864.
 Ward, William H., died April 1, 1865.
 Watson, William, killed June 3, 1864.
 Watts, William, Jr., died February 27, 1865.
 Werth, Augustus, killed June 16, 1864.
 West, Charles H., killed August 25, 1864.
 Weston, Henry, died June 17, 1864.
 Witcher, Orville B., died June 18, 1864.
 White, Jefferson, died January 4, 1865.
 White, Sharron, died June 8, 1864.
 Wiard, John, died January 7, 1864.
 Wilcox, Emery, killed June 3, 1864.
 Williams, H. P., died September 17, 1864.
 Wiseman, Christopher, died December 24, 1864.

Warden, Luther H., killed June 22, 1864.
 Wright, Charles S., died September 23, 1864.
 Wurth, William, died while a prisoner of war.
 Zeim, George, died June 20, 1864.

FORTY-NINTH INFANTRY.

Adams, John, died —.
 Bugbee, James A., died October 4, 1862.
 Bush, William, died March 20, 1862.
 Fuss, Mathias, died September 26, 1862.
 Furgason, Malcolm, died July 17, 1864.
 Hermiston, Mark, killed June 22, 1864.
 Hermon, Cornelius, died November 8, 1862.
 Hessel, Charles E., died May 14, 1863.
 Moss, Charles H., died October 21, 1861.
 Pixley, George W., died December 30, 1861.
 Russell, Nathaniel, died November 19, 1862.
 Silsby, Jay, died February 3, 1863.
 Smith, Albert, died October 21, 1862.
 Steele, Wesley B., died May 16, 1863.
 Wilcox, Alonzo D., died February 19, 1862.
 Williams, Theodore C., died July 8, 1862.

SECOND MOUNTED RIFLES.

Barker, Thomas, killed June 18, 1864.
 Behan, William T., killed December 24, 1864.
 Bartley, James, drowned October 18, 1863.
 Bush, William H., died July 18, 1864.
 Casey, Michael, killed —.
 Clift, William H., died September 22, 1864.
 Collins, John C., died —.
 Congden, Martin, killed March 9, 1864.
 Davis, Clark, died July 15, 1864.
 Day, William, died July 4, 1864.
 De Long, James B. N., killed June 18, 1864.
 Eggart, Franklin S., died July 2, 1864.
 Erion, Elias, killed July 18, 1864.
 Hoglan, Edgar, died July 30, 1864.
 Hull, Benjamin B., killed July 30, 1864.
 Lindsley, William, killed July 28, 1864.
 McGinnis, John, killed June 2, 1864.
 Mead, Frank C., died September 27, 1864.
 Nellist, Charles, died September 5, 1864.
 Nye, Frederick, died July 1, 1864.
 O'Neil, James, killed July 30, 1864.
 Pease, Nathaniel, died prisoner of war.
 Powers, Edward, died prisoner of war.
 Randall, Lafayette, died March 16, 1865.
 Richardson, Truman B., died July 30, 1864.
 Robinson, Isaac, died May 1, 1865.
 Rushmore, Joseph M., died August 17, 1864.
 Sevars, Aaron, died June 14, 1864.
 Seward, —, killed July 30, 1864.
 Shaver, John, died August 17, 1864.
 Simmons, Alma A., killed September 30, 1864.
 Smith, Joshua B., killed April 9, 1865.
 Smith, Lawrence, died October 11, 1864.
 Squires, George, died December 15, 1864.
 Stottle, Eugene A., died July 19, 1864.
 Summers, John, killed June 18, 1864.
 Warren, L. Edward, killed June 2, 1864.

Wentworth, John, died August 3, 1864.
 Williams, William F., died June 19, 1864.
 Ziehl, Frederick, killed July 18, 1864.

EIGHTH CAVALRY.

Capt. Benjamin F. Foote, killed June 9, 1863.
 Barton, Alexander, died September 10, 1862.
 Bedford, Francis, died April 22, 1865.
 Fisk, Newton, died June 29, 1862.
 Garrett, James M., killed September 17, 1864.
 Griffin, Henry, died November 19, 1862.
 Hinman, Willis, killed April 1, 1865.
 Hunter, Samuel S., died August 10, 1864.
 Johnson, James, died August 15, 1862.
 Marvin, James H., died March 12, 1862.
 Pierce, Otis W., died May 23, 1865.
 Smith, Carlos S., killed October 15, 1863.
 Smith, Orwin, died May 24, 1862.
 Van Orman, Isaac, died October 28, 1864.
 Wallace, Charles, died September 20, 1862.
 Watterson, James, died March 13, 1862.
 Watton, Elijah, died June 13, 1864.
 Woodhull, David F., died a prisoner of war.

O land of our love, of our heart's devotion;
 With a heavy price was our glory bought.
 For from eastern sea to western ocean
 Close lie the graves of men who fought.
 Some lives went out on the field of glory,
 Some in the prison pen alone;
 But each name shall live in their country's story
 Till the stars from her flag fade out unknown.

THE WAR WITH SPAIN.

Again, in 1898, the United States was engaged in war—not now a war within its borders, as in 1861, but a war for the cause of humanity and civilization. We, as a stronger nation, offered to help a weaker one to break the chains that bound her to a tyrant. "Cuba must be free!" was the cry, and the North and the South joined hands to free her from Spanish rule. After our battleship "Maine" had been blown up in Havana harbor, the United States declared war on Spain, and summoned to her aid all her loyal sons. New York State responded quickly and sent out her men to help, and as all the counties of the State contributed, so Niagara did her share.

The Forty-second Separate Company, of Niagara Falls, had 114 men attributed to Niagara County. This company became Company E, of the Third New York Infantry, and the Twenty-fifth Separate Company, of Tonawanda, became Company G of the same. The latter company contained men from Niagara County, but as they are all credited to Tonawanda, the number of Niagara County men is hard to determine.

These soldiers went South to Camp Alger, in Virginia, and were drilled, ready to go into service at any moment. However, they did not take part in any battles or skirmishes. If they had been called to the front they surely would have fought as bravely as their fathers before them, but it did not become necessary that they witness such scenes as occurred a third of a century ago.

The war did not last long. The lives lost were few, and of these not one was from Niagara County.

Niagara County Farmers Club.

BY COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE CLUB.

FOR more than half a century there has, at various times, existed in this County what has been called the Niagara County Farmers' Club. In its early history the meetings were held in Lockport, in the Court House, Common Council rooms and in the old Arcade Hall. At that time the meetings were well attended, and the rooms where they were held were often crowded. Such men as Elisha Moody, Solomon Moss,

of Gasport, was chosen as the first president of the club. Hon. Guy C. Humphrey, of the Town of Somerset, was elected vice president, and John L. Chase, of Johnson's Creek, secretary. During the first two years the meetings were held in the Court House, and occasionally in the Hodge Opera House block, in the City of Lockport. The club did not grow as rapidly as was expected, and the meetings were not as well attended as desired, while held in the city.



SILAS S. HOPKINS, PRESIDENT.

Jonas Young, Elias Sharp and Jephtha Babcock, among those who have passed away, and scores of others now living, were present and took part in these meetings. During the winter season the meetings were held regularly, but in the busy summer months they were allowed to lapse.

FORMATION OF PRESENT ORGANIZATION.

In February, 1880, the present progressive agricultural organization was formed, at Lockport, and the name of Niagara County Farmers' Club retained. The idea of forming a permanent organization was conceived by J. L. Chase, of Johnson's Creek, who has the honor of being the father of the club. Mr. Chase endeavored to interest a number of farmers in the various towns in organizing to promote the agricultural interests of the county, but on the day of the meeting only a handful of the faithful appeared, and they were at first inclined to abandon the idea of an organization. However, the organization was formed, and little did that handful of men realize that it was destined to grow into a powerful and representative body. Its influence has been felt the length and breadth of the County for more than twenty years, with the result that Niagara County agriculturists are known to be among the most progressive in the State.

The organization took place in the old American Hotel building, in Lockport, and at this meeting John P. Sawyer,



E. ELLIS CROSBY, VICE PRESIDENT.

Two years from the time of organization Mr. Humphrey was elected president, and he changed the meeting place to the farming communities. Since that time the club has met in every town in the County, and in some places it meets regularly every year. The result of holding the meetings in the country districts were very gratifying. The membership grew rapidly, and the meeting places were often taxed to their utmost capacity by those in attendance.

EARLY METHODS.

A campaign of education was begun in earnest. This has ever been the object of the club to elevate the farmer, to make him more successful in his calling, to educate him for his business. The first meeting of the club in the country district was held at Johnson's Creek, the second at Cambria Center. At first the ladies of the churches where the meetings were held served complimentary dinners to those in attendance, but this soon became a great burden, and thereafter a nominal fee was charged for the meals served. Lately the churches have realized handsomely as the result of the proceeds of these dinners.

While the club met in the city the meetings were held regularly each month during the year. When the meetings were first changed to the country districts the winter sessions were dropped. During the past few years the winter meetings have been resumed again, with even more success than those held during the summer months. The winter meetings are usually held in the villages. The regular day

for the meetings is the last Saturday in each month, and the annual meetings are held on the same day, in the month of January, usually at the Court House, in Lockport.

Eleven years ago, during the presidency of Mr. Humphrey, it was deemed advisable to hold a picnic, at which the social side of the farmers could be more readily developed. The picnic took place at Lake Island Park, Wilson, and beforehand there were some misgivings as to its success. But the attendance at the very first one went far beyond expectations, and its success as an annual event was assured. Much of the success of these annual outings is due to the efforts of W. N. Harris, manager of Lake Island Park, who has always made excellent provision for the large crowds. For the special benefit of the club he had a speaker's stand and seats erected, which are used for carrying out the programs of exercises on these days. Of recent years these



W. T. MANN, VICE PRESIDENT.

annual outings have assumed a political complexion, and party leaders and aspirants for office have been very much in evidence.

SOME OF THE PAST OFFICERS.

It was at one of these annual picnics that Mr. Humphrey, after having served ten years as president and vice president of the club, was presented with a gold-headed cane by the farmers of the County.

Mr. Humphrey, owing to advancing years, relinquished the office of president, and he was succeeded by Silas S. Hopkins, of Ransomville, who is now serving his eighth year at the head of the organization. Mr. Hopkins, like Mr. Humphrey, has been honored by being presented with a token of respect and esteem by the members of the club. During the present year President Hopkins was the recipient of a beautiful gavel, made of ivory and gold. He has made a very efficient president of the club, and has conscientiously performed the duties of his office.

Among those holding the office of secretary of the club since its organization have been ex-Supervisor Clarke, of the Town of Lockport; Col. W. E. Palmer, a former newspaper man of Lockport; Gifford D. Fowler, of the Town of Wilson; Dr. M. D. Williams, of Middleport, and the present incumbent, William F. Schultz, of Niagara Falls, who continues to forward the interests of the club with conspicuous energy and zeal.

PRESENT OFFICERS.

The officers of the club at present are: President, S. S. Hopkins, of Ransomville; vice presidents, E. E. Crosby, of Lockport; W. T. Mann, of Barker; secretary, William F. Schultz, of Niagara Falls; financial secretary, C. Herbert McClew, of Newfane; treasurer, Charles J. Miller, of Newfane.

The committees for the respective towns for the current year are as follows: Cambria, W. J. Baker, A. G. Eighme, W. V. Peterson; Hartland, F. J. Swift, M. W. Silsby, George Humphrey; Lewiston, Willard Hopkins, H. B. Treichler, C. N. Bradley; Lockport, J. S. Woodward, W. F. Clarke, Chauncey Ernest; Niagara, T. W. Welch, T. Greiner, F. G. Whitney; Newfane, Dr. C. A. Ring, William Shaw, F. S. Pettit; Porter, H. S. Ransom, George P. Tower, C. R. Ayer; Pendleton, Edwin Harmony, H. M. Treichler, H. C. Hall;



WILLIAM F. SCHULTZ, SECRETARY

Royalton, George Hull, John P. Brown, Dr. M. D. Williams; Somerset, F. M. Bradley, G. C. Humphrey, C. R. Whitcomb; Wilson, J. H. Hopkins, Herbert Swick, E. Stockwell; Wheatfield, Arch C. Scoby, B. F. Woods, E. Dexheimer.

BENEFITS OF THE ORGANIZATION.

During the twenty-two years of the existence of the club Niagara County has become the greatest fruit growing county in the world. The development of orchard interests in this County has been due more to the efforts of the club than any other one influence. Instruction has been given for years at the club meetings on how best to care for the orchards. The dissemination of knowledge at the time of the scourge of the pearssylla saved the fruit growers of the County thousands of dollars. Orchard pests of all kinds have been fought in a scientific manner by those who have attended the club meetings. Fruit specialists from this and other States have given practical demonstrations before the club, from time to time, until many growers have become experts themselves. The result has been that fruit is grown to a higher state of perfection in Niagara County than anywhere else.

The other branches of farming have not been neglected, and particular attention has of late been paid to dairy subjects. Grain and garden farming, stock and poultry growing, and the various other interests of the farm, are thor-

oughly discussed whenever occasion presents itself. One of the past presidents of the club has summed up the good work thus: "We have better farms, better farmers. There is a higher standard of education among the farmers and their children. We have developed the social side of farm life. The farm home has been made more attractive. We have elevated the calling of the farmer, and have banded together the tillers of the soil in Niagara County, in an organization second to none in New York State, if not in the Union."

The members of the club have developed the ability to speak in public. It is quite the usual thing at the club meetings for farmers to express themselves logically, forcibly and sometimes eloquently, on subjects pertaining to the farm.



C. HERBERT MCCLEW, FINANCIAL SECRETARY.

Legislators have come to these meetings, and have been impressed with the intelligence and earnestness of the members. Any request from the Farmers' Club pertaining to legislation receives prompt attention.

FARMERS' INSTITUTES AND CORNELL.

The club aided very materially in making a success of the first Farmers' Institute, held under the auspices of the New York State Agricultural Society, which took place in Lockport, on January 13 and 14, 1887. This was so successful as to ensure the organization and continuance of this very efficient educational work, known as the New York State Farmers' Institutes. Institute workers state they observe in their travels a marked difference in the character of the audiences when they reach Niagara County, where they find people alert for knowledge on farm subjects.

During the past year the club has so thoroughly introduced the Cornell University reading courses in the farm homes that the enviable reputation has been obtained of being the banner reading course county in the State. The club also took an active part in securing the complete rural mail delivery system in this County, making it possible for all farmers to receive their mail every week day. Recently the club conducted a very successful excursion and field day to Cornell University and Geneva, to visit the agricultural experiment grounds. In 1901 many of its members were prize winners for horticultural exhibits at the Pan-American Exposition.

The club has advocated the teaching of farm subjects in

the County high schools, the improvement of the country roads, the building of trolley lines, and the establishment of rural telephones. The success in recent years that the club meetings have attained has been due greatly to the publicity given them by the county papers.

Among those who have been prominently identified with the club in years past are: E. B. Swift, of Cambria; Jabez Woodward, of Lockport; George P. Tower, of Youngstown; the late Harmon B. Tower, of Ransomville; Willard Hopkins, of Lewiston; the late John Swick, Belden F. Wright and James G. C. Brown, of Wilson; the late Charles McClew and Mrs. McClew, of Newfane; W. H. Outwater, of Olcott; John Mather, Joseph Garbutt and M. W. Silsby, of Hartland; H. H. Bugbee, Dr. F. L. Knapp and



CHARLES J. MILLER, TREASURER.

John P. Brown, of Gasport; Edwin Harmony, of Pendleton, and Hon. T. V. Welch, of Niagara Falls.

The life of Mr. Woodward is such an important part of the agricultural history and progress of Niagara County that a brief sketch of his career and his services to horticulture and agriculture is appropriate in this connection:

Jabez Seldon Woodward was born April 4, 1831, in Phelps, Ontario County, New York. When one year old he came with his parents to Newfane, into what was then the "Great North Woods," between Ridge Road and the lake shore. He attended district school until 1847, after which he was a pupil at Wilson Academy for five winter terms. In 1854 he married Sarah Maria Davis, of Wilson, and they have reared three children. He always lived on the farm until 1871, when, to give his children school privileges, he moved to Lockport, where he has since resided. Mr. Woodward has always been an owner and interested in farms and farming, and has tried to keep in touch with the latest improvements in farming. And while he has been engaged in various other enterprises, he has always felt more interest in the farm than anything else. For five years he was secretary and manager of the New York State Agricultural Society, and only relinquished that position because of a very severe sickness, which compelled him to quit all literary work for several years. While secretary of that society more life members joined than ever before or since in its history. To Mr. Woodward, more than to any other

man, belongs the credit of organizing and putting on a permanent and successful working basis the work of Farmers' Institutes in New York State, and for five years he was sole



JABEZ SELDON WOODWARD.

manager of the work, and attended all the institutes. In fact, it was the double work of secretary of the Agricultural Society and manager of Institutes that brought on the sickness that compelled him to retire.

Mr. Woodward has long been an active member of the

Niagara County Farmers' Club, and while he has always refused all offices connected with it, he has been one of its staunchest supporters. He seldom fails to attend its meetings, and is always ready to further any plan for its greater efficiency.

Mr. Woodward, with his nephew and partner, H. M. Jaques, is largely engaged in farming, owning over 600 acres of the finest land in the County. They have very extensive orchards of peaches, pears, plums and apples, having in one year barrelled 8,000 barrels of apples and 20,000 baskets of peaches.

They are also the largest raisers of winter (hot house) lambs in this country, if not in the world, having marketed as many as 800 in a single winter.

Mr. Woodward was the first man to advocate the winter shearing of feeding sheep, and the close housing of cows and fattening animals in warm stables. He was the first man to recommend spraying apple trees with poison for the destruction of codlin moths. In fact, he has been the pioneer in many things that were considered very radical, but which later have become general practices.

In politics, he was an original Abolitionist. He was the youngest delegate to the State convention at Auburn, at which the Republican party was born, and has been a steadfast Republican ever since.

Mr. Woodward is a contributor to many of the agricultural papers, and what he writes has the ring of constant experience. He has fully regained his health, and to see him so full of life and so active one would hardly think him over 71 years old and for seventy years a resident of Niagara County.—ED.]



FOREST ON LAKE ONTARIO, 1838.

Reminiscences of Lewiston.

BY JOSHUA COOKE.



VIEW FROM QUEENSTON HEIGHTS OVERLOOKING LEWISTON.

THE publishers of the "Souvenir History of Niagara County" have asked me to contribute to their volume, under the above head. Left now, in the lapse of years, the eldest person living in Lewiston—born in 1821—there is much, of course, of personal remembrance, and much more derived from those who have lived before and with me. I feel, at the outset, that there may seem undue frequency of personal and family reference. I hardly see how it can be avoided. Hon. Peter A. Porter tells me that he finds my grandfather, Lemuel Cooke, to be the oldest actual settler on the Niagara Frontier. His family was large, and had numerous descendants. They have always been prominent in the Town and County, deeply engaged in the business and enterprises in the history of the county, and can hardly be passed by; for delicacy's sake, in reminiscences of the town, I say this, now, to deprecate censure, if I seem somewhat often to refer to members of our name, and to incidents connected with myself.

JONCAIRE, THE PIONEER.

Any adequate reference to the past of Lewiston must date from the advent on the Niagara Frontier of that remarkable Frenchman, Chabert Joncaire; remarkable from his personal history, and from his striking qualities of character. The leading facts are well known. Taken prisoner by the Iroquois in one of their incursions on the French, he was condemned by the Senecas to torture at the stake. Before the torture began a brutal Seneca touched his lighted pipe to Joncaire's finger to show him how fire would feel. The brave Frenchman struck him full

in the face and felled him like an ox. The Senecas, with the fickleness of the race, were so delighted with his act that they unbound him and adopted him into their tribe. He married among them; acquired their language, and became distinguished for his wisdom and eloquence in their councils. By his single influence, he was able to thwart for many years, the influence and plans of the English Governors of New York and of Sir William Johnson, superintendent of Indian Affairs. The Senecas, in 1720, allowed him to erect a trading hut of forty feet in length, on the after site of the memorable ferry across the Niagara, at the foot of the Rapids. There, from 1720 till 1740, the date of his death, he stood face to face with Sir William Johnson, one of the most remarkable men of his time; the one on the Niagara, the other at Johnstown, in the extreme East. This hut, for fur trading and Indian supplies, was the beginning of Lewiston; the only white man's dwelling west of Oswego, and that was merely a military post.

In 1723 the Senecas allowed Joncaire to remove his hut to the mouth of the river, and under his influence the French were allowed to put up some fortifications, which, year by year, grew to be Fort Niagara; doomed, in 1759, under Pouchot, to fall before Sir William Johnson. The Lewiston hut gradually rotted down, though the place was always the scene of transfer of furs and goods, up and down the mountain, as we Lewistonians always call it, and of passage of French troops and traders to and from the far West. Here, then, begins my reminiscences of Lewiston. To facilitate the carriage of furs and supplies to the river above the Falls, the British built a tramway on stone abutments, by a

windlass or stationary power. Two men could draw up more than ten men could take on their shoulders. In my father's boyhood the remains of the great wooden rails were plainly visible, and in my own boyhood the stone abutments of the tramways were still standing, all quiet, shaded now, where, 100 years before, was the busy train of trader and native bearing up the supplies and down the furs. And at night, around Joncaire's hut, at the bottom, the song and dance of the merry Frenchman, or the whoop and war dance of the Chemessio Senecas. Quite an Indian settlement sprang up there, for the plug of tobacco and pint of brandy, which a day's work could purchase. All these things would crowd on my boy mind as I sought the mountain side to shoot the ruffed grouse, which made the stone abutments favorite places for drumming. Eighty-two years pass by. Joncaire is gone; the Frenchman is gone; the Englishman is gone.

Their forms are dust;
 Their swords are rust;
 Their souls are with the Lord, we trust.

ADVENT OF THE AMERICAN.

The American has come. My grandfather, Lemuel Cooke, had been in the army of Washington, in the Revolution. The English were about giving up the Frontier forts in 1796; the Government offered transportation to any, in New England and the East, who would serve one year in the forts. He had a young and growing family in Connecticut; he resolved that he would take a home on the Frontier, and grow up with the region. Up the Hudson; up the Mohawk; down the Oswego; along Lake Ontario; then Niagara—two long months of weary travel, which is now made in a day. My father was then nine years old; his life, with mine, covers the whole period of progress of Middle and Western New York from an untrodden wilderness to an orchard, grain and garden land of 2,000,000 of people.

Again, this man, who was the first actual settler on the Niagara Frontier. He served his year at the fort; kept the ferry to Newark, till 1802. In the spring of that year, just 100 years ago, my uncle, Lothrop, and my father, came up to the old ferry; spent the summer in hewing out logs and slabs for a dwelling; built on the very site of Joncaire's cabin of eighty years before. It was a lonely place. Wolves howled nightly around the dwelling, and cows, hogs, everything living had to be shut in by night from their attacks. Middaugh had been where the village now stands with his humble tavern. Henry Mills had been there, as a single man and a squatter; actual settlers there were none; they were alone in the wilderness. But the ice was broken and settlers came slowly in; Barton, Fairbanks, Hopkins, Hustler, Millar and others, whose names are identified with all the after growth of the place.

RELEASE OF PEMBERTON.

Before leaving the locality of the Joncaire hut, I would recall a striking incident, often mentioned in local histories. After the defeat of the Indians by Sullivan at Elmira, in 1778, having taken Captain Pemberton prisoner, they resolved, in their anger, to burn him. They had bound him to the stake, and were about proceeding with the torture when Brant, the Mohawk Chief, craftily interposed. He had been long associated with Sir William Johnson before the latter's death; he had been to England, and received much honor there; the savage element had been greatly mollified, and he did not want Pemberton tortured. But, traditionally, a native chief who stakes his influence on a measure and fails

loses his place as chief, and Brant did not dare to risk his influence with the savages. Seeing an aged squaw seated near the stake, who had lost a son in the battle with Sullivan, he said quietly to her, "what a pity such a fine man should burn; he would keep your lodge in venison. Why don't you claim him, in place of your son?" and slipped a knife into her hand. She arose, cut the Captain's thongs, and claimed him for adoption. The whole tribe could not say nay; he was adopted; married a Tuscarora woman and I knew his children well; there are descendants now in the tribe.

It is well known that Brant and his Mohawks were obliged, about 1775, to fall back on the Niagara with the British forces still in possession of Fort Niagara, with 300 miles of wilderness between him and the successful colonists. He set his wigwam in a fine meadow of about thirty acres, near the foot of the mountain, where was a spring, and an apple tree, said to have been planted by him. I have often, in boyhood, eaten of the apples and drank from the spring. His people settled along the Ridge Road for a couple of miles out from the river and cultivated patches of ground for support, while the river and the woods gave them the rest. They left before 1796, when we took possession of the Fort. My grandfather afterwards purchased the two fine meadows occupied by them and Brant as a home, to which he moved in 1810. It is still a family home, in possession of Miss Emily Cooke, my cousin, the only one living of my uncle Isaac's children, as a sister and myself are the last of our own family, and one daughter, of my uncle Lothrop's; four left of twenty-nine of the three families; so we fade. It is still true as old Homer sang 3,000 years ago: "The race of men are like the leaves." I may add, that I am surprised to find myself the only person living who can point out the line of Joncaire's abutments, with remains of a number, and the stump of the wild apple tree to which the Indians tied Pemberton, just back from the old ferry.

DEVIL'S HOLE MASSACRE.

In writing of Lewiston, I have not felt called upon to give details of the terrible massacre of the Devil's Hole, though occurring within its limits, for Niagara was not then a county, and Lewiston was not a town. Yet a brief reference to it may seem desirable in a volume giving to present readers a history of the past. After the victory of 1759 Sir William Johnson established wagon communication between the two ends of the portage from Joncaire's hut to the Fort Little Niagara above the Falls. The Senecas were angered at this, as they had had quite a revenue from carrying over the portage. And they had been surly and hostile during the whole contest between the English and the French. The two Chiefs, Cornplanter and Farmer's Brother, organized an ambuscade at Bloody Run, emptying into the Hole or ravine, and massacred the entire party of soldiers and teamsters returning from a trip above, only two escaping; then met and murdered a second detachment sent for relief. It was, in both instances, an unprovoked, merciless slaughter, and the dead bodies were hurled, scalped and mutilated, into the ravine. This was Sir William's opportunity, and he was the man to use it. He gave notice to the Senecas that, unless they met him in treaty he would send Gen. Bradstreet, with a British army, and sweep their towns, or orchards and grain from the face of the earth, and drive themselves to the woods. They came, cringing like hounds; he demanded two miles wide on each side of the Niagara from lake to lake for permanent use for transport; they gave it without a murmur, and added the personal

present to Sir William himself of Grand Island. As an official, he could not accept of this, but handed it over to the King. From that hour the power of the fiercest, most numerous and hostile tribe of the great Confederacy, the exterminators of the Neuters and the Eries, dwindled away. Well, the little hamlet of Hustler, Middaugh, Mills, Woodman, Gambol, McBride, the Howells, none of them, but Hustler, permanent settlers, had grown into a village, with two doctors, two lawyers, two blacksmiths, two merchants, while on the roads out of the place had settled such men as Latta, Robinson, Hopkins, Sanders, Sage and others, long after known as prominent and leading families that carried on their influence and their name.

BETTY FLANAGAN.

The incident has often been referred to of Cooper's connection with the Hustler family in the matter of his character of Betty Flanagan and Sergeant Hollister, in the "Spy," and the "Pioneers." In the War of 1812, Cooper, then a midshipman on the lake, boarded, for some weeks, at the Hustler Tavern. The somewhat formidable woman who ruled all within, was of so marked a character, that Cooper did, in fact, take her for his "Betty Flanagan," as above. Report said that she had been a sutler in the Revolutionary army, what the French call a "vivandiere." To this probably is due the fact of somewhat formidable elements in her character. She had the name of being a virago of the first water, and so to the life did Cooper give her out in the "Spy," that when her daughter came onto the book she threw it in the fire; the very form and speech of her eccentric parent were again before her. My own recollection of her is entirely in the Betty Flanagan line, and is vivid to me as I write, after seventy years. When about ten years old, I was passing her house one wet morning, and was hugging the long front stoop of the tavern to avoid the mud. In the average haste of the boy a little late for school, I had failed to tie my shoes, and the strings were trailing. The dreaded dame stood on the steps, her arms akimbo, with the appearance of looking out for war, as was said to be generally the case. This time, the war fell on me. In a voice like a cracked bassoon, she cried out, "come up here, you little brat, and tie your shoes; what do you go that way for through the mud?" I went up as promptly as if a Governor or a President had called me, but trembling in every joint of my frame. "Can you tie a double bow-knot?" "No, Mrs. Hustler," I stammered. "Well, now put your foot up on the step, and I will show you how." My fingers would hardly perform their office, but, at last, after repeated failures, she initiated me into the mysteries of the double bow-knot, and I achieved both the knots to her pleasure. "There, now, honey, don't go that way with the strings down; come in and get some bread and sugar." It was like being patted by a lioness, but I took the sugar. The famous old hostelry was noted as celebrating its functions to the public, especially, in the way of drink, every Saturday night. There were the Sergeant and Betty; two grown sons, one son-in-law, three grown daughters, and all celebrated. If, on the night air, at 10 o'clock, Saturday evening, cries of "Help! murder! help!" came from that direction they fell on unheeding ears. It was like a boy saying to another, "Jim, there's a thunder storm coming!" "Well, let her thunder, what's the harm?" It is amusing to hear the Betty Flanagan incident connected with another famous hostelry of the old village, built ten years after the war, and after the time of Cooper's sojourn here.

THE WAR OF 1812.

Then came the War of 1812, and the Battle of Queenston Heights. The little village is now turned into a military encampment, and such men as the Van Rensselaers, Wadsworth, Chrystie, Wool and Scott, are passing to and fro in the cool October days, and Gray and Towson are getting ready to thunder from the top of the mountain on the battery at Vrooman's Point. Lemuel, Lothrop and Bates Cooke and Asahel Sage are engaged as pilots, being familiar with the current, with the aim to land the boats at Hennepin's Rock. I stood on it the other day, and walked along the grim breastwork where Dennis lay with his forty to fire on our troops. Benjamin Barton had the contract to furnish the boats, and the whole matter hung on the skill and courage of a few men of the little village. The landing is made; the fight is sharp; in half an hour Colonel Van Rensselaer is brought over, severely wounded, and borne to my grandfather's home; seven out of ten of his officers follow, severely wounded. Wood takes up the fight, with three wounds himself, wins three battles; kills Brock, McDonnell, Williams and Dennis; leaves the fight to Winfield Scott, who bravely conducts it to the end, when 1,800 militia stand on the banks and look on while the little band are overpowered, surrender and are marched prisoners down the river to Newark. Morrison and Uncle L., the two village physicians, Alvord and Willard Smith, their arms red to the elbows, nobly aid the army surgeons and relieve the wounded. The people of the little place were not wholly cast down, for while the main body of the militia were recreant they who went over with the regulars played their part gallantly, and won three battles out of four before the eyes of the village lookers on. Little trade in the old town that day; no sound of the anvil; no gathering in shop or store; all on the bank, or helping in care of the wounded and dying brought across. Van Rensselaer lay at my grandfather's for five days before he could be carried elsewhere for treatment; the gallant Wool soon recovered and Scott came back from Quebec in time to chase the enemy from Fort George and to win immortality, with almost deadly wounds, at Chippewa and Lundy's Lane.

ESCAPE FROM THE INDIANS.

Then came, in 1813, the catastrophe following McClure's barbarous act of burning Newark on his evacuation. In vengeance, the fort was taken, and British and Indians, spread along the river, burning and murdering all in their way. One after another, nearly a dozen were shot down. A. Millar and S. Gillet were taken prisoners to Montreal, not returning till the next year. The case of Dr. Alvord was pitiful. He was a cripple, and, attempting to escape on horseback, was shot down and tomahawked. When he was found his poor fingers were slit down to the wrists with the hatchets, as he had vainly held them up to parry the blows or to ask for mercy. Dr. Willard Smith escaped on foot, and was, incidentally, the means of the escape of all the male members of my grandfather's family. It will not be deemed too much that I should give an account of this; it has been often printed, and I will give it as it is known in our family.

My uncle, Lothrop Cooke, had lost his leg in hauling Van Rensselaer's boat through the cold water to a point where they could make Hennepin's Rock in the fight. He was in the last stage of weakness, and the least motion was feared as endangering his life. News came to the home, east of the village about a mile, of the taking of the Fort, and the coming of the Indians. Sending the women of the family ahead with the horses, my grandfather yoked his oxen

to a sled; covered it with straw and blankets, and my father carried the helpless one out in his arms. He survived the moving, and the little band of father and three sons started for the road, going east. My father had a musket; there were no other arms. Dr. Smith came along on foot, and said, "Bates, is your gun loaded?" "No, I have no cartridges." "Well, I have two, load your gun with one and I will load mine with the other." And he passed on. They had arrived at the hollow, where the road to the Reservation turns off, up the mountain, where five British Indians came up rapidly on horseback. The chief had a sword in place of a hatchet, and riding up behind the sleigh, he made a pass at my uncle, but his blow fell short. My uncle has told me of his feelings at the moment. He was so weak that he could not turn his head to avoid the sword, and thought his end had come. A brass kettle, hanging on the hind sled stake rattled just then; the horses started back, and the savage missed his blow. He rode up again, when my father raised his gun and fired. My uncle said that he was looking up directly in the Indian's face, when the bullet struck him in the throat, a gush of blood followed, he wheeled and fell, rose up and ran a few rods and fell dead. The other Indians had fired a random volley to break my father's aim, at which a little band of friendly Tuscaroras in the mountain, but bidden by trees, fired a random volley, and gave the war whoop. They were led by the noted little Col. Jacobs. The attacking party, alarmed, spurred their horses into the woods for Fort Niagara. The sleigh had gone about a mile, when Mr. Sparrow Sage overtook it, and said, "Bates, the Indian's horse has run into my yard; you had better go back for him; it will help you all away." He did so. His little office and his few books had been burned on his return; he sold the horse for sixty dollars, and it was his beginning in life again. One of his first suits in court was in defense of title to the horse. The horse had been captured from soldiers by the Indian and had the "United States" brand upon him. A government commissary saw the brand and claimed him. The plea was made that the horse had been captured by the enemy and belonged to any person who should retake him from the enemy. It was declared good law, and the purchaser kept the horse. The larger things of life lie in the smaller. Dr. Smith's single cartridge and Jacob's war whoop held in them the life of our family, and the sixty dollars was the beginning of a practice which ended in Congress and the Comptrollership at Albany. But the latter did what the Indian hatchet could not do; it killed him!

After the war most of the settlers came back in one or two years. Many others followed; the town, the county, were organized, and as it was for long the county town, perhaps more than the average proportion of marked men settled it.

THE FIRST CHURCH BELL OF THE FRONTIER.

Many readers will have seen an account of Brant, the Mohawk Chief's church bell. He had been to England; been made much of; been confirmed in the Episcopal church, and when he came back brought a small church bell with him for church service near his home. It was hung in the crotch of a large tree and used for Sabbath service, when a chaplain from the fort or an occasional missionary could be procured. Of course, when he withdrew to Canada he took the bell with him. It may be claimed to have been the first church bell rung west of Utica. I have often seen the tree, in my boyhood, on my grandfather's farm. The old gentleman was not much given to relics, especially of Indians. His wife had died from exposure in her flight

into the woods; he and his sons, as has been noticed, had been in imminent danger of death at their hands; his house had been burned by them; his property destroyed, and himself reduced to begin life over again with the title of his lands and empty hands. So he could not be said to have had a decided affection for the noble red man. Some would have spared the tree as a relic. My iconoclast relation wanted sled runners; he cut the tree down, and made a sled of it.

LAFAYETTE'S VISIT.

The first distinct reminiscence of my own regarding Lewiston life is of Lafayette's visit in 1825. I was then four years old. All is as distinct to me as any incident of life since. The tall, fine form of the noble Frenchman; the wild delight of his twelve year old boy, in putting cents into split sticks for the Tuscarora boys to shoot at; all that would strike a boy, is vividly before me today. One incident, for its pathos, can never be forgotten. He said to the committee, "In the Revolution, there was a Tuscarora Indian who was of great service, and was much thought of by General Washington and myself. I think his name was Cusick, Solomon Cusick; I wonder if he is yet alive?" "Mr. Cusick is alive, sir, and is here to meet you today," was the reply. The crowd parted, and from the middle of the street came tottering, on his cane, a silver haired old native. The generous Marquis sprang from the steps, met Cusick half way, threw his arms around him, and stood looking him in the face. Neither could speak; tears streamed down their cheeks; it was plain that both were under the spell of the memory of Washington. Strong men wept like children at the sight, and I remember it as the first time I had ever seen men cry. The hotel was kept by Thomas Kelsey, now the residence of Eugene Sage.

MORGAN EXCITEMENT.

Then came the trying days of the Morgan excitement. It is not my purpose to enter into details, but it was one of the most exciting occasions the County ever saw, and Lewiston was its center. My father was one of the prosecutors of the abductors, and was earnestly engaged in the search for Morgan's body. He had no thought, at that time, that neighbors of his own were implicated. Yet the hack to take him to Youngstown was furnished in Lewiston, and the leader of the whole conspiracy was a former Lewiston citizen, and cut his throat in Youngstown. No one on the stage line would ride in the hack after the facts became known. It stood on a back street and rotted down on its hinges. No money, when I was fifteen, would have tempted me to go along that street after dark. Feeling ran high; near friends became estranged; one of the oldest friends of my father and he did not speak to one another for seven years. Time healed the strife, and they died friends.

THE TUSCARORAS.

I have spoken of the Tuscaroras. A few words as to them. It is well known that the majority of them as of the Oneidas, although the weakest of the tribes, sympathized with the colonies. Since the Revolution they have shown sincere attachment to Americans, and at times have fought for them. I have mentioned Cusick. He was for many years the interpreter for the missionary to his people; but he was so honest, not being a committed Christian himself, he would preface each sentence interpreted, with "hi-na-hae-na," he says. He would not commit himself to it, as a fact. When he made a profession of religion, he dropped the preface and gave credit to the speaker. John Mountpleasant,

the elder, was a noble specimen of a man, physically, and, in many respects, mentally and morally. It is a well known fact that all the leading names in the tribe are those of British officers, who lived with the native women as wives, during their quasi exile from England on the Frontier. Many fine qualities of mind and person have come down to them from these ancestors. The Mountpleasants, Thompsons, Johnsons, Chews, Gansons, Pattersons and others, all have their names from this source. The older Mountpleasant was a special frontier friend of our family, and had a kindly regard for me. He said to my father in his office one day: "Bates, you think you have a white boy there; you are mistaken; he can fish; he can hunt; he is a good Tuscarora, and I take him into the tribe." My father begged me off to finish my schooling, and would then leave it to me. Often when we were fishing on the Rapids, and the fishing was dull, I would write down Indian words as he would give them; then pronounce them from my writing till the English letters gave the Indian sounds. It was sixty-five years ago. Here are the numerals for counting now: (1), un-che; (2), nak-te; (3), och-suh; (4), hunt-och; (5), whish-oh; (6), oh-hyoch; (7), jah-hyock; (8), nak-re; (9), nee-se; (10), wachsthua.

Like all primitive languages, the names of objects are from some quality of the object, as *cutch-a-punch-toke*, noch fish, for black bass; *cus-na-ka-ra*, white bass, or silver fish; *u-sint-not*, stone-in-the-head, sheephead, from the peculiar bone in that fish's head. The Tuscarora has not been reduced to writing or printing; it is only an oral tongue today, although soft and musical. A lady came on from Washington and took two months to writing it down; she gave it up, reporting that "the language was two-thirds words and one-third grunts, and you can't print a grunt."

In the strange changes of life, it fell to my lot to bury Mountpleasant's wife, long after his own death; a venerable silver-haired woman, almost the last of the pure blood of her race, and nearly a hundred years old; blind for years, with an eye beautifully dark and soft, and showing no sign of blindness. The boy he had adopted did this office in his home, long after his own manly form had turned to dust.

COLONEL JACOBS.

Another notable Tuscarora was the little Colonel Jacobs; a small, thin, wizened man, with the soul of a hero in the shell. I have noticed his part in saving my grandfather and his sons from massacre. In his later days he fell under the vice of his race, and became a victim of the bottle. But, to the end, he had a humor, almost ludicrously shrewd. Coming in from a squirrel hunt one day, I saw the Colonel, lying in a corner of the fence by the wayside, with his bottle rolled two or three feet away. With a boy's impulse I dropped my game and shot the neck off his bottle. He was not drunk at all; only asleep. He sprang to his feet, drew his knife, and set out for me in full chase. I had to drop my game to make time, when he shouted, "I kill you! I kill you!" and I began to think of dropping my rifle. He halted, and shouted: "I know you; I know you, Joshua; I tell your father in the morning." Sure enough, the morning found him on hand, and me, unluckily, copying papers. He made his complaint. My father said, "Joshua, the Colonel says you shot his bottle; how is that?" It was a case of George Washington and the hatchet, and I had to own up, urging that the Colonel seemed to have had enough already. "But the bottle was his, and the whisky was his, not yours; don't do such a thing again. Colonel, how much will make

the bottle good; a quarter?" "O, yes; and let the boy go; he no mean harm; only little fun!" He then went out, turning at the front door, with a squint, ludicrous beyond words, and beckoned me out with his little bony hand. I followed him; he closed the door carefully, and said to me, raising two fingers, "One shilling, one quart; two shilling, two quart; you shoot him every time!"

ONE-EYED JOHN.

Another venerable member of the tribe was an old, very old man, named One-Eyed John, or Fisher John; one of the few pure bloods of the tribe, with a skin from age and exposure between sole leather and mahogany. He was a taciturn old man; had little to say, till one had got inside the shell. John thawed to me for my love of the spear and the Rapids. Sitting, one day, looking into the water, and the fish not running freely, he said: "You know Doc Patterson?" "Yes, pretty well." "He baptize, last Sunday." (The Baptists had organized recently and introduced immersion.) "Well, John, I hope it will do him good." "Don't know! Patterson uncertain! Last spring I was out in the woods; snow melting off; little ponds all around; see snake run into little pond; swim on bottom; come out on other side; same snake; so Patterson!" I think I have seen the same among white men.

Old John's grandmother was a girl twelve years old in the great migration of 1712; he told me, from her, the whole story of that movement of the fierce, but heroic race.

MEN AND EVENTS.

I suppose that, in a volume under the auspices of the Pioneer Association, it is reminiscences of pioneer men and pioneer days that is looked for; say to 1830 or 1840; if one should attempt even reference to men and things of a later date, it would be divested of the pioneer quality. And in such reminiscences I find myself turning to men. And, after all, men, living men, are what make a frontier, and what make a world. So, when I recall a sawmill, by Richard Ayer, on the Tuscarora stream, it is the rugged, active, downright farmer, Richard Ayer, that I recall; not the mill. When I think of the old gristmill, in the river, turned by water from the famous "old pond," I think of John Gray, who built and kept the mill; of the grave, fine looking John Gray who was one of the few pioneers to honor a Christian calling in a Christian life, in the form of the Baptist faith; how princely his speech to the little boy who brought the family grist to mill, and waited till it was ground. So it must be of men chiefly that reminiscences must be looked for from me, and of incidents that bring them out.

EARLIEST SETTLERS.

Among the earliest settlers were Aaron Childs, who afterwards removed to Niagara Falls, and spent his life there. A little matter touching his two sons may amuse the reader of today. The oldest, William, from the first became prominent in Sabbath school and church work, in connection with his business of life. The other son could not be said, in act or speech, to have followed strictly the Sabbath school line. So marked was the difference that, with the brusque freedom of frontier life, one was called "Deacon Childs," the other "Sinner Childs." A man once asked the latter, "Sinner, how came you and your brother by your names, Deacon and Sinner?" "O, I suppose, because Bill prays and I swear, but we don't either of us mean anything by it!"

Another pioneer of marked type was Rufus Spalding. He was one of the best of farmers and honest of men; but his views on religion were aggressively skeptical. He

named his boys Volney, Voltaire, Steven and Franklin. He seems to have felt the list exhausted with the first two, and his use of the last two does not evince full faith in the orthodoxy of the immortal author of "Tristram Phandy," or of the venerable compiler of "Poor Richard's Almanac." He lived to see Voltaire a preacher of the Gospel and Franklin a communicant in the Episcopal Church. Mr. Spalding's near neighbor was Sparrow Sage; a man as consistently and unobtrusively a believer in the Gospel as Mr. Spalding was aggressively the other way. Mr. Sage, in the forties, adopted the views of Mr. Miller, in the Second Advent, as many of the most earnest and fervent Christians of that day did. When, in the most elaborate calculation the time for the Advent was set for the following spring, Mr. Sage, with his large and fine family, took all their measures and ordered their affairs, with reference to the momentous event. As not to be needed beyond the spring, he consistently forbore to put in his winter crops, and left his whole farm fallow. Mr. Spalding, one of the best farmers in the County, put in his crops in his usual most careful manner. He had almost a neighborly concern for Mr. Sage over his course, and his remarks on it could not be strictly comprised within Sunday school limits: "When spring came and the nonsense should all become smoke, what would become of his family? It would be too late to put in grain; the man would have nothing to eat, and his family would starve." It was a case for verbal pyrotechnics, and the words were fully fired. At the same time, all that knew Mr. Spalding knew that he would divide his loaf with his neighbor, and would be the first man with his teams to help him put in his spring crops. But there must be the verbal explosion. The winter passed, the spring came; the calculations erred, and Mr. Sage looked around him, like a good farmer and honest man, to do the best he could in the emergency. There was not time to plow; he simply harrowed in his wheat, and reaped a crop far beyond Mr. Spalding's, and one of the best in the region. The latter was confounded; it came little short of being downright affliction. A whole winter's objurgation must be swallowed, and to any farther remark, there was Mr. Sage's wheat fields. "What was the use of farming, anyway? If wheat could be scratched in, why not take things easy before hand, as Sage had, and scratch it in when the time came. Who couldn't be a farmer in that way?" And the good, kind man—for he was kind-hearted as a woman—reaped a leaven of discontent with his own grain. To a neighbor's remark, "that it was good for a farmer to look down on the ground, but that it was good sometimes to look up," he gave an expressive stare, but disdained an answer.

THE FIRE OF PATRIOTISM REKINDLED.

The Rebellion came, and the man whose boyhood went back of the Revolution, was all aflame. The best elements of his nature shown forth. He was near 90; his concern for the cause was an actual personal distress. He staid in the village, with his daughter, to be in contact with the news, and as the aged form sat in the sunshine in those dark days of the spring of 1861, no one could do him a greater kindness than to stop and speak a word of cheer. His son was revenue collector of the district; a meeting was organized for outlet to the pentup feelings of the people; the National flag was raised; the venerable patriarch was made chairman of the meeting; a dry goods box was made a rostrum for the speaker, and the tension was painful in the extreme. The speaker began in this way: "The venerable man who sits at our head today saw the light before our nation began; the question before us today is whether he shall,

while yet living, see its sun go down; whether one man's life shall cover our existence as a nation." "Never! never!" shouted the old man, thumping his cane violently on the floor while the tears streamed down his aged face. He lived to see the conflict over, the nation saved, and went content, for his eyes had seen the day.

HEROISM OF THE PIONEERS.

I have mentioned Sparrow Sage. In the most unassuming form was hid the soul of a hero. In the War of 1812, learning that an Indian had come to his house, in his absence, and had taken his wife off prisoner to Fort Niagara, he seized an ax, pursued and overtook the ruffian in the forest, armed with rifle, hatchet and knife, rushed ferociously upon and disabled him by a blow in the shoulder with the ax, and sent him howling to the woods. "Any man would do that," the reader may say; I am a man myself, and I have my doubts whether any man would do it; whether even most men would.

At this point, at the risk of bringing in my family name again, I will refer to my uncle, Lothrop Cooke. When the War of 1812 broke out he was on the northern shore of Lake Ontario, working a farm. He had married a lady of French descent there, and they had an infant child. The Canadian Parliament passed an act requiring all aliens to take the oath of allegiance, in pain of imprisonment and confiscation of goods. The son of a Revolutionary soldier, he refused to take the oath. Learning that officers were on the way to arrest him, he put his wife and child, with a few things needful for them, into a bark canoe, and paddled across Lake Ontario to Fort Niagara, forty miles. To appreciate the deed, one has but to look out on the lake from the shore. As has been mentioned, he had lost a leg, by exposure in dragging the boats up the stream, at the battle of Queenston Heights, and, on recovery, used a crutch and cane. He was the first Sheriff of Niagara County, then Deputy Sheriff. While in this latter office a desperado of this war, living on the lake shore in Porter, had become the terror of his neighbors, poisoning horses, houghing oxen, in defiance of arrest and prosecution. It was known he would shoot, and all feared him. A man said to the Sheriff at Lockport: "Send the warrant of arrest to Lothrop Cooke, at Lewiston." My uncle got on his horse at once and started out on his errand. It was a congenial one, for this outlaw was the very officer of militia to whom my uncle had carried Van Rensselaer's request for help at the Queenston battle, and he had plead fever and could not come. He saw his man hoeing in a field by the road, and, frontier like, passed the time of day with him. The man came up to the fence, without fear, since the fence was between them. For twenty minutes, I had heard my uncle say, he tried to get the man's eye off from him, but could not. He had ridden up to the fence in a way that he could spring over from his horse, with his one leg. All at once, he said, "Why, Major, what is that vessel doing so near the shore? She will get aground." He turned, and my uncle was at once over the fence, and on top of him, bearing him to the ground. He was a very powerful man, six feet five inches, and with a frame of bone and muscle. The outlaw also was a powerful man, but he was taken by surprise. "Let up, Lothrop; let up; I give up." My uncle rose up, drew a horse pistol, and said: "Now, Major, we know each other well; put out your hands for the shackles, and all will be well. Refuse, and I will shoot you dead. And you know that I will do it." He held out his hands and in fifteen minutes was on his way to Youngstown and Lockport.

In the great work of constructing the locks of the Erie

Canal, at Lockport, a serious riot occurred among the Irish laborers. There were, I think, some 2,000 of them, and they were all led by one man; a sturdy, fearless fellow, who seemed to have brains to lead, as well as brains to dominate. The peace and safety of the town became at last involved and the authorities were at a stand. Elias Ransom said to the Sheriff and Mayor: "Send for Lothrop Cooke; he is Deputy Sheriff, and will not fear the mob." When my uncle arrived the warrant was placed in his hand for the arrest of the ringleader. "Do you want help, Mr. Cooke?" "Not a man! You have not enough citizens to make the arrest if they resist, and they will not look on a single man as a defiance." It was certainly a singular spectacle, even for the irregular disturbances of a frontier. On the one side a crowd of 2,000 men, armed with clubs and stones, with the ringleader some rods in advance, to direct their motions; on the other, a single man, a cripple, using a crutch and cane for his support. He was a very powerful man, with an eye like an eagle, and, more than any man I ever saw, seemed perfectly devoid of fear. As he came towards them, on crutch and cane, the warrant visible between his fingers, the Irishmen, true to their national humor, burst into laughter and raised a shout of derision. He advanced directly towards the leader. My uncle could leap ten feet on his single leg; when some thirty feet distant he began prodigious leaps forward; the man, taken by surprise, and alarmed, turned to run, but stumbled and fell. In a moment my uncle was on top of him, and like the ruffian Major, the man was like a boy in the hands that held him. "Let up; let up," he cried out; "if the devil is after me on one leg I surrender." He was allowed to get up. "Now, my man, we are both men, and this is no child's play. You know that you are wrong, and that all them men are wrong. Give me your word, as a man, that you will persuade the crowd to go back to work and I will tear up this warrant, and give you my word that no man shall suffer for anything done in the riot." "Mr. Sheriff, you are a brave man, and a kind man; I'll do it!" He went back and addressed the mob; told them the terms offered; advised their acceptance, and led off himself to resume work. All did the same, and the town had peace. It is true, I bear the same name, but even modesty will allow me to declare the act, like that of the canoe and of the ruffian's arrest, the act of a hero.

There were other men of the same mould in the pioneer days. Look at Silas Hopkins, a lad of seventeen; after driving a band of oxen, in company with others, to Fort Niagara and Newark, belting his money around him, and starting back alone, to New Jersey. No roadway through the wilderness; no place of lodgment save the damp earth and the forest for a roof; the howl of the wolf and the hoot of the owl in his ears as he fell asleep, night by night, in that 450 miles journey, and the trail where already men had been waylaid and murdered for the money they were taking home. Many grown men, and stout-hearted men, will read this volume. How many of them would care to repeat the deed of this boy of the frontier in 1787? When answering the draft, in the Civil war, at the Provost's office, I was not surprised to see at my side, for the same purpose, a grandson of Silas Hopkins. There are but two left in the old town to bear the family name of Silas Hopkins and Lemuel Cooke.

Let the reader consider, too, the stalwart quality of the men who made the great migration to the frontier. Achish Pool, of Massachusetts, had two sons, Thomas and William, and decided that he would make them a home for their manhood on the famed, but far off Niagara. With a horse and

a yoke of oxen for his team, the sturdy man made his way through the wilderness to near where Dickersonville now stands; there pitched his camp; made his home; reared his family; took interest in all things of public interest, and was gathered to his fathers in a ripe old age. How many men would like to make that trip now; the same means of transport, under even all present conditions; but, then, streams to be crossed by wading; woods' roads to be traversed, sometimes trails, with no roads at all; camp to be made nightly in the woods, forage to be daily gathered for the beasts, and weeks required for the long, toilsome, weary passage; then the camp to be made; the logs cut for a home; the woods to be redeemed to cultivation, and the tireless industry and careful economy practiced to give maintenance and comfort to all in the thinly settled region? But the Pioneers of the frontier were built of just such material as this resolute son of Achish Pool. Mr. Pool was a law client of my father's, and always on the same side in politics. A number of times, each year, he would call at my father's office and spend part of the day in the most earnest talk on all questions of the day. The old gentleman had the New England way of clipping his words, and addressed my father always as "L'yar Cooke." In writing, the apostrophe can indicate the elision; but in speech, not. I asked my father once why Mr. Pool always called him "L'yar Cooke." "O, I am a lawyer, you know, and perhaps he thinks that lawyers don't always tell the truth." It is seventy years; but how clearly cut in memory is the short, firm figure; the bright eye, the gray hair and the vigorous speech that gave assurance of no more doubt of the soundness of Whig principles than of the Bible. So I am not surprised to see the vigorous Massachusetts man bringing his religion with him, and his name entered with his wife's in the roll of the Lewiston Presbyterian Church, in 1817, eight miles from his home. As with his descendant, our venerable friend of the Niagara Courier, politics and Revelation stood on the one and impregnable ground of right, as he sees it!

LORENZO DOW, THE EVANGELIST.

One of my most vivid remembrances, connected with early life in Lewiston, is that of a visit and service for the celebrated Lorenzo Dow. I am glad to advert to this, to disabuse any of the present day from the view of him by many, that he was half crazy; mentally unbalanced. Nothing could be farther from the fact. Eccentric, in the extreme, he undoubtedly was, but a gifted, earnest, faithful preacher, as an evangelist, of the Gospel. His ways were his own, and he took his own ways. A faithful Methodist, he yet held himself commissioned by Christ, not by man, and to go and come, not as directed by bishop or conference, but as directed by the providence of God. He was so devout and consistent a Christian, and so fearless and far-reaching in his preaching and work, that the officials gave him free rein. From Maine to New Orleans, along the whole frontier, and where no one else could or would go, he made full proof of his ministry; and his life was a faithful and extraordinary public service of his Master. His very appearance was remarkable. Of a slight, spare build, but active and wiry; with long, straight black hair, hanging to his shoulders; with high cheek bones and a skin as swarthy as an Indian, and an eye of intense brightness, and his one distinguishing feature. Odd tales were abroad of his peculiarities, and created a desire beforehand to see and hear him. Not long before his visit to us he had visited a frontier town, now one of our largest Western cities. Giving notice of a meeting, and making arrangements for it, he was

told of a blacksmith in the suburbs noted for his violent temper and infidelity, who utterly refused his wife attendance on any religious meeting. "That is just the kind of man and woman I like to see." "But, Mr. Dow, he is just as likely to assault you as not, and probably will, if you go to his house." "I long ago got over fear of the Devil, and I am not afraid of his servants."

He called; the poor woman confirmed the report as to her husband; stated that she was a member of the Methodist Church at the East, but had been prevented and forbidden attendance at any occasional meeting here. "And, Mr. Dow, I am sorry to say that you are in danger of assault if my husband should find you here." "Don't be alarmed, sister; I have met just such men, and they are the biggest cowards in the world." "There he comes now, Mr. Dow; I am very much afraid." Hanging on the wall was an old sword in a rusty iron scabbard. Dow took it from the wall and got behind the door. The man entered. "Has old Dow been here?" "Yes, he was here to give notice of a meeting, and asking us to go." "Well, if you try to attend those meetings I will flog you, if you are my wife." "No, you won't!" screamed Dow, springing from his place, and drawing the sword, with a fearful rattle, from its iron sheath. "No, you won't, you miserable coward! Get down on your knees, or I'll cut you to the chin." His eye glared, his face flamed, and the man thought he had to do with a lunatic. "Down with you," thundered Dow, and the man dropped on his knees. "Don't strike, don't strike, Mr. Dow; I will do as you say." "Well, then, promise that you will let your wife come to meeting, and that you will come with her; or"—and up went the sword in the air. "Yes, yes, Mr. Dow; she shall go. I'll go with her; don't get excited!" Dow sheathed the sword, hung it in its place, and said: "Get up, my friend." He arose. "I am no more crazy than you are; but, as man to man, I ask you if it is manly to cross your wife's religious belief when she never crosses yours? Is it manly to take a woman from her home to live with you, in a love as strong as your own, and play the tyrant to shut her off from one of the great enjoyments of her life; you, who promised before God and Man to love her and study her happiness; is it manly?" "Well, Mr. Dow, I have not looked at it in just that way; I don't suppose it is. I will not disturb her any more." "Now you are a man, and act like a man. Come to my meetings. I shall not refuse you your right of judgment, any more than you ought to refuse me mine. And now, my friend, it is near tea time and I would like to take tea with you and your wife." "You are welcome, Mr. Dow, and as often as you please while you are here." These things went all over the country, and all were glad to see the kindly, eccentric man. He hired the tent of an itinerant merry-go-round, in our place, and gave out notice of meetings. The tent was thronged. Just as he had risen to give out the hymn, there came sailing in, with two or three other girls, the young woman who accounts herself the social leader of the place. Fluttering her fan at some boys on the upper seats, she took her place below, directly in the middle of the ring. While Mr. Dow was reading the hymn she was twittering away to the girls, signing to the boys, and otherwise showing that she was not taken in by all this thing. Through all the preliminary services she kept it up, and even after Mr. Dow had begun to speak. Suddenly he stopped. He looked intently up at the roof of the tent. All became still as death. The girl herself paused to see. Still looking up, he said: "I have preached in a Maine lumber camp, and lumbermen are a

wild, lawless set; I have preached in a New Orleans gambling hell, where the very air was oaths; I have preached on a Kentucky race ground—and that is the nearest to hell I have ever been; but in all the places where I have been, I have never seen man or woman behave so shamelessly as"—and he flashed his eye on her, and flung out his long, skinny finger—"that young woman, right there!" It was fearful. Her companions involuntarily moved away from her; she turned pale, then scarlet, and seemed without health. My own feeling, of a boy of twelve years old, was that, if I could get out of that tent I would scuttle home and get under the biggest bed in the house; there was no knowing where the lightning might strike next. The social leader was one of the most exemplary attendants on all the rest of the meetings, but boys and girls were scarce in the vicinity where she sat.

FREE FIELD AND FAIR PLAY.

I have spoken of brave men of the frontier. John Robinson was one of these men. Passing the Frontier House one day he saw Lothrop Cooke, backed up against the hotel wall, and holding off with his crutch three angry men, in liquor, with whom he had had a controversy on Masonry. He stepped at once to the side of the assaulted man, set his own back against the wall, and said: "Gentlemen, I don't know what the trouble is about, but when I see one man, and him a cripple, attacked by three men, they will have to do with John Robinson." He was known as a powerful man, and the job was declined. I give these particular instances, for they show the quality and general character of the men.

In my reminiscences thus far I have sought to give those of a pleasant character. It would be gratifying if those of no other kind existed.

THE OLD ACADEMY.

The Old Academy is a monument to the intense desire of the men of the frontier that their children should have what had been denied by early privations to themselves—a good education. Hon. James Atwater has in his hands the material which will set this forth; and the hands are those of a practiced writer and teacher. The painful themes for reminiscences are two: the fearful ravages wrought by whisky and the drinking habit among the people, high and low, and the deplorable lack of interest of nearly the entire leading class in the community in public morals and religion.

RELIGIOUS INDIFFERENCE.

I will advert to the religious indifference, and close these reminiscences. I shall dwell chiefly on these as illustrated by the case of the Presbyterian Church; our friends of the Episcopal and the Catholic churches, building much later, found the same obstacles in their way. In 1817 a Presbyterian Church was organized, with Rev. David M. Smith, newly ordained, as pastor. It is not surprising to see the names of Aaron Childs and John Robinson among the organizing members, nor that of Achish and Susannah Pool among those earliest received. Of these, Mr. Childs soon after removed to another town and Mr. Robinson was lost to the little number from disaffection. From that time on the little band added to its numbers only the lowly and obscure. In the little band, slowly growing, meeting for years in private houses, in school rooms, no lawyer's name is found; no doctors, no merchants, no village magnates; the poor in place and the humble in calling make up the growth. But they do not look to man. Early in the twenties they venture on the building of a church. How small the number; how feeble the means! The Indians of Tuscarora were

worshiping for years in a church built for them by the Connecticut Missionary Society, while the people of Lewiston were meeting in private houses, or in a school room. In poverty, in struggle and in prayer, the little band struggled on; they raised their walls and covered them, and met for worship without windows; the only strife for seats at that time was when the sun might not shine or the rain beat in. They attained windows, and were glad, though the floor was the ground and the seats were planks or sections of logs. I have myself sat at church and Sunday school with my feet in the grass. Yet, under such conditions and in such days, we were privileged to hear some of the saintliest men who went the rounds of the wilderness for their Master; the venerable Elder Segur, of the Methodist Church; Eldridge, of the Baptist; Tomlison, of the Universalist; men as stainless of soul as the white around the neck that marked the gentleman and the minister of the day. Then came the floor—the seats, the pulpit, indeed, and the little company, still poor and obscure, said in their hearts, as the Son of old, “Grace, grace unto it.” Then came the days of song and of triumph; the days of Wisner and Sherwood; of Burchard and others, and the members grew, and men like Richard Ayer, and Arthur Gray, and Sparrow Sage, and Hetzel Colt took a stand for Christ and His cause. The temperance reformation always found the old church enrolled, to a member, and at the front. The cause of the slave was plead from the pulpit and held up in prayer; and when the Civil War broke out members from her number were among the first martyrs, and the solid old walls were the rallying point of the

men for the Union. With her sister and later churches she stands today, as she has always stood, for all that is best for men here, and all that is for hope hereafter. Her humble pioneer founders built in feebleness and tears, but they builded better than they knew.

RECORD BOOK OF THE FUTURE.

Among the thousands who visit the famous Queenston Heights, and look upon the grand, vast scene before them, almost an uniform question is, “What is that white building across the river, so central and so distinctive?” “That is the Pioneer Church of Lewiston, built seventy-five years ago, and in perfect condition still!” Readers of these words of the past, there is another Record Book to be opened up, when this and all earthly volumes have passed away. When the page of Lewiston is turned it will not be the names of leading men, in all worldly sense; of names and material pioneer enterprise, that will stand highest in record then. At the head of all will be the name of one of the lowliest, as to place, one of the poorest as to men; one of the feeblest as to strength of the band of pioneers. While others lived for this world, he made this world a stepping for another and higher, and for others, as well as himself. Whole generations of the young call him blessed in their age, for he led them in, and shielded them with counsel and with prayer. Poor in this world’s goods, for he shared with the poor to his loss; he made his treasure that hope whose fulfillment is Heaven. In the Heavenly reminiscences of Lewiston the first name will be that of Josiah Tryon.



VIEW OF SUSPENSION BRIDGE AT LEWISTON—OPENING DAY.

The Lockport Home for the Friendless.

BY MRS. E. ASHLEY SMITH, RECORDING SECRETARY.



JOHN HODGE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

MAIN BUILDING.

THE ROGER WALCOTT KEEP BUILDING.

IN THE early seventies the Lockport Home for the Friendless was struggling in its infancy, but from our present standpoint its day of small beginnings is not to be despised. The War of the Rebellion, 1861 to 1864, devastated our firesides and cast its helpless widows and orphans upon the great heart of humanity. Aid and relief societies sprang up like magic throughout the State, and noble women of Lockport, proving equal to the emergency, organized, September, 1865, the Lockport Ladies' Relief Society and Home for the Friendless.

For six years, down to 1871, the society dispensed relief and charity in the form of provisions and coal; also clothing and bedding made in the society, and accomplished much.

But at this point the necessity of a permanent home for the friendless and destitute children, where they could be cared for, trained and placed in families for adoption, so pressed upon the society and its staunch supporters that an effort was at once set on foot for its accomplishment.

The subject was agitated, and a meeting of citizens convened, canvassed the matter and discussed plans.

A charter was obtained and signed February 8, 1871, by nine trustees, Judge Hiram Gardner, Hon. John Hodge, J. L. Breyfogle, Horatio Kilborne, Gustavus P. Hosmer, D.

F. Bishop, Thomas Hall, M. W. Evans and J. W. Helmer, "who builded better than they knew" when they organized this "Home," so humble in its inception—so grand in its achievement.

At a meeting of many friends of the enterprise a constitution and by-laws were framed, adopted and the first board of directors appointed. J. W. Helmer, the first president of the board of trustees, then G. P. Hosmer, J. L. Breyfogle and P. B. Aiken, followed by Hon. John Hodge, in 1883, whose continuous service until his death, in 1895, was full of wise leadership and ceaseless efforts for the prosperity of the Home. His memory will be an inspiration to more faithful service and his name ever be associated with the Lockport Home for the Friendless.

In October, 1895, Hon. John E. Pound followed as president of the association, and has given most efficient and untiring attention to the constantly increasing duties and responsibilities, which are shared by the present active and capable Board of Trustees.

Mrs. A. J. Mansfield was the first treasurer. The second, Hon. John Hodge, elected in 1873, followed by the faithful and arduous services of J. A. Ward, elected in 1876, and continuing to 1901, when the duties of the position having grown so arduous they were divided, Mr. Ward consent-

ing to act as secretary, and Mr. C. J. Townsend as treasurer.

Mrs. J. T. Bellah was the first president of the Board of Directresses, whose wise counsel and devotion led successfully through those early days of perplexity to 1897, when her mantle fell upon our present efficient and honored president, Mrs. C. L. Hoag, who with Mrs. Martha White, first vice president, Mrs. E. Ashley-Smith, recording secretary; Mrs. A. L. Beverly, directress, were of the original board, and still remain in active service, associated for many years with Mrs. John Hodge, Mrs. C. N. Palmer, vice presidents, and Mrs. W. T. Rogers, corresponding secretary.

It was difficult at that time to raise funds and to secure a suitable building. Under these circumstances it was that the zeal and efforts of love and charity organized into this a real and beneficent institution.

On application to the Board of Supervisors, that body appropriated, upon conditions, the amount of \$3,473.47, then in the treasury of the County, received under appropriation by the Legislature for such purposes.

The two conditions required were: First—that the money should be applied upon the purchase of a Home; Second—that an equal amount be raised by voluntary contribution.

The latter condition having been accomplished, in December, 1871, the trustees secured the residence of F. N. Nelson, on High street, consisting of two and one-half acres of ground and house with outbuildings. The citizens were generous in their subscriptions, both in merchandise goods and furniture, to start this venture.

During February, 1872, the first weekly meetings of the association were held at the Home.

As time passed the work of sheltering orphan and destitute children has been steadily pursued, increasing in magnitude and importance. And to the present day we have not lost sight of the original plan when suitable means could be secured, that of providing a home also for old ladies of Niagara County, thrown upon the cold charity of the world.

After years of anxiety from fear of exposure to calamity in the old Home, and of fruitless planning and hoping for a house safer and more convenient, in August, 1892, the limited quarters on High street were exchanged for the present commodious Home at Wyndham Lawn. Here we could have, under the same supervision, the babies and young children committed to our care. Having up to this time been obliged to place the infants where they could be cared for and nursed outside the Home proper. This greatly hampered the work, and was an added care and anxiety to the Board of Managers, who so patiently waited until the way opened and larger buildings and better facilities were provided. And today the two nurseries, always so well filled, need no farther comment as to the necessities of the case.

January, 1893, brought to us one of the brightest and most cheering experiences of our history, in the first visit of the Sir Knights, of Genesee Commandery, so fruitful in substantial gifts and encouragement.

The best of it all was the assurance that it was to be perpetuated for all time.

Experience taught the need of some one who could give personal attention to the placing of children in good and suitable homes, and, in 1891, was secured the services of John R. Bayliss, who is still in our employ. His tact and judgment have added greatly to the success of the work, and his conscientious supervision over the children as the years pass, visiting them constantly from time to time, can only be appreciated when the record of his life's work shall

be closed, and its influence upon the lives of the many friendless little ones with whom he comes in contact shall be known. He has placed in good homes over 100 children, and continues his supervision of them. Since the organization of the Home nearly 1,000 children have been received to its sheltering care.

We have now associated with us a board of auxiliary vice presidents from the County for co-operation and effort in the work. W. Bryant Cook has given a service of fifteen years as Sunday School superintendent, and with unusual devotion, never allowing himself to be absent, nor one minute late. Thus by example and precept he has left an impress upon the minds of the children hardly surpassed by the more fortunate who are under the parental roof.

In this connection mention should be made of many of those who have been engaged in this institution, as helpers, in capacities of responsibility and usefulness. As teachers, Miss Hurd, Mrs. Webster, Miss Draper, Miss Hoover, Miss Webster and Miss Jack. Among those who have so gratifyingly filled the laborious position of matron are Mrs. Empson, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Kate Brockway and Mrs. Frances Dennison, who was ideal, with her loving, untiring devotion to the welfare of the little ones, and with an efficiency that made her retirement a great loss to the Home. It is with characteristic good fortune that the services of our present matron, Miss Ladd, was secured, who gives evidence of being surpassed by none.

The children who have been the beneficiaries, and who were, and still are, being placed in happy homes, often gladden our hearts by letters, showing in many cases that they are occupying positions of responsibility in life. They always express continued interest in the Home and pleasant memories of the days spent here.

The Home has always been blessed with the attendance of skillful physicians, first Drs. Bishop and Evans, up to 1886, followed by the faithful and untiring service of Dr. S. Wright Hurd, until 1900, when, owing to illness in the family, Dr. Hurd felt obliged to resign, and Dr. Carl Blackley has been his most attentive successor.

For over thirty years have the successive Board of Managers wrought with untiring zeal, until their hopes and plans for increased usefulness and enlarged facilities are in a great measure realized in the present well established institution. This has been made possible by the generosity of many interested in the work, who have contributed largely to its establishment and maintenance.

Among these we would mention the legacy of Lyman A. Pound, which made possible the purchase of our present grounds and improvements.

Other legacies which have materially aided the work it is impossible to mention in this limited space. Among them are Cheeseboroughs and that of Robert H. James and Miss Mary Keep.

Through the generous thought and gift of Roger Wolcott Keep a fine building was erected in 1898, ample in dimensions and equipment to the needs of the boys, including a large school room, play room, dormitories and bath rooms, fitted with all modern and hygienic appliances.

Toward the close of 1897 our work was enlarged by caring for the children of Genesee and Orleans Counties.

On February 23, 1902, the gift of the John Hodge Memorial Hospital was formally tendered the Trustees of the Home, and on the following day, at a special meeting of the joint Boards of the Home, it was formally delivered into their custody, and was personally inspected, when a

genuine surprise awaited all, as they crossed the threshold to find the most attractive up-to-date and complete little hospital any vivid imagination could picture. Words failed to express the delight and appreciation of Mrs. Hodge's munificent benefaction, and many were the expressions of endearment and gratitude to the giver, whose pleasure it was to thus perpetuate the memory of a beloved companion.

Still another blessing and possibility for enlarged usefulness has come to us this year in a laundry building, with machinery and every modern equipment and convenience, which can only be appreciated by those who know of the wearied method by which weekly the hundreds of garments were cleansed by the old hand-to-hand washtub and clothes-line process. This laundry is the result of the strenuous efforts of members of the Board of Directresses and friends of the Home in collecting, and the public in responding to the call, but this is not yet entirely paid for.

While the friends of this institution are striving to provide for and place in homes these friendless little ones, with such gratifying results, there comes an earnest solicitation from many residents of the County for an endeavor to meet what seemingly is the next imperative and real demand of the present time, in our again taking up the work which, in the early history of the Home, was combined with the care of orphan children. We refer to the provision and maintenance of aged women. For the first five years the Home for the Friendless took under its shelter, in its limited quarters, ten old ladies, whose gratitude and blessing more than repaid the ministry of patience and care which was given them. In accordance with the recommendation of J. P. Letchworth, Commissioner of the State Board of Charities, and also the lack of funds, the Home voted that it could not consistently take any more old ladies while the children demanding their care were increasing in numbers.

But an appeal, loud and long, from the bereft, sorrowing and lonely, unheeded by a cold world, causes to vibrate a responsive chord in the hearts of the friends who have toiled so faithfully, early and late, to bring comfort and happiness into the lives of these little motherless children.

Thus we are now confronted with this problem by those especially interested in the old and homeless, and our own conviction of its need as well. We are planning and longing for the time to come when the gifts from other generous and sympathizing hearts will enable us to found an Old Ladies Home, on the spacious grounds and in connection with the group of buildings at "Wyndham Lawn."

For the future and larger work, of which this institution is capable, we can only depend upon farther and more liberal

bequests from the charitably disposed people of this Senatorial District.

Indeed, the future still beckons higher to a greater work that lies before us. Let the silver cord of more than a quarter of a century link the conception of the founders of this charity with our renewed interest and determined endeavor, that we may be enabled to meet the ever-increasing call, never more pathetic than from the lips of the aged or the mute pleadings of helpless infancy.

The following named persons constitute the corps of officers for the year 1902:

BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

Hon. John E. Pound, President.

C. J. Townsend, Treasurer.

J. A. Ward, Secretary.

William A. Williams, Augustus Keep, Dr. S. W. Hurd,

A. R. Ferguson, E. Ashley Smith, George H. Moody.

BOARD OF DIRECTRESSES.

Mrs. C. L. Hoag, President.

Mrs. Robert White, First Vice President.

Mrs. John Hodge, Second Vice President.

Mrs. C. N. Palmer, Third Vice President.

Mrs. William T. Rogers, Corresponding Secretary.

Mrs. E. Ashley Smith, Recording Secretary.

DIRECTRESSES.

Mrs. A. S. Beverly, Mrs. Edwin Emert, Mrs. A. R. Ferguson, Mrs. H. F. Gaskill, Mrs. W. T. Herrick, Mrs. R. H. James, Mrs. Charles Keep, Mrs. G. G. Lansing, Miss M. McClellan, Miss Laura Moss, Mrs. John Pierson, Mrs. John E. Pound, Mrs. Laura Post, Miss D. Pierson, Mrs. F. N. Trevor, Mrs. J. A. Ward, Miss Jennie Liddle, Mrs. W. B. Cook.

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A Board of Auxiliary Vice Presidents to assist in the work in the surrounding towns is composed of the following:

Mrs. Emma Swan, Albion; Mrs. L. H. DeGraff, North Tonawanda; Mrs. Clarence A. Ostrander, Knowlesville; Mrs. D. Brookins, Newfane; Mrs. Eli Nichols, Niagara Falls; Miss Elizabeth Trott, Niagara Falls; Mrs. L. J. Gross, West Somerset; Mrs. E. T. Ransom, Ransomville; Mrs. Edward Robinson, Pendleton; Mrs. Marion Lawson, Royalton; Mrs. F. H. Hurd, Medina; Mrs. O. P. Scovell, Lewiston; Mrs. Blackman, Warren's Corners; Mrs. Mary F. Hopkins, La Salle; Mrs. Grant Cuddaback, Wilson; Mrs. H. M. Fales, Tonawanda.



OFFICIALS OF NIAGARA COUNTY.

1—HON CHARLES HICKEY, County Judge and Surrogate.

2—BURT G. STOCKWELL, District Attorney.

3—D. GURNEY SPALDING, Sheriff.

4—FRANK P. WEAVER, County Treasurer.

5—HECTOR M. STOCUM, County Clerk.

6—ALBERT H. LEE, Superintendent of the Poor.

7—ALMOND D. VAN CLEVE, School Commissioner.

8—ADELAIDE L. HARRIS, School Commissioner.

9—JACOB P. HELWIG, Coroner.

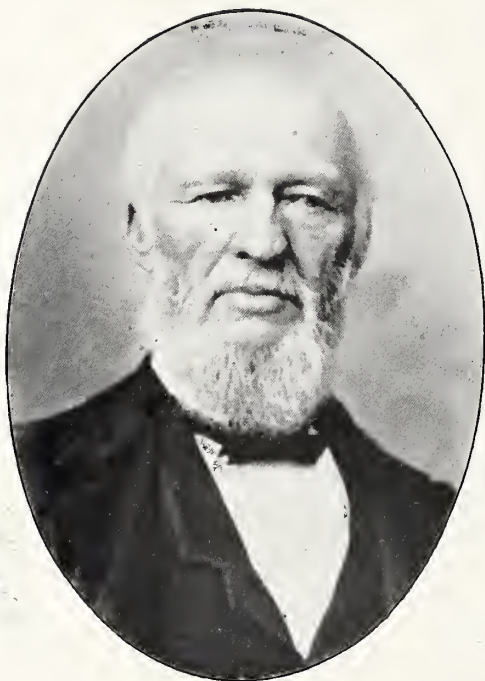
10—HART SLOCUM, Coroner

History of the Towns and Cities.

Town of Cambria.

BY ELISHA B. SWIFT.

SEEMINGLY it is safe to say that only a few of the present generation realize the position the Town of Cambria held in the early settlement and history of Western New York. A debt of gratitude is due to Orsamus Turner, author of the "Holland Purchase;" to William Pool, author of "Landmarks of Niagara County," and to all others who have sought to preserve and to perpetuate the early history of this Town and County and the surrounding portions of country. In commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Pioneer Association, which was founded in 1877, my duty settles down to try and give Cambria its appropriate place in history. My



ELISHA B. SWIFT.

regret is, through the long years passed away, and sometimes imperfect records, and the present state of my health, some allusions to incidents and persons may be omitted that deserve credit in these pages; especially the names of women who heroically shared the perils of ague and fever, and all the privations pertaining to this region in those early days. It will be necessary to quote from "Landmarks," and to gather from other sources, to which I desire here to give full credit.

The Town of Cambria is the mother of all the other towns in the County. By act of Legislature, March 8, 1808, all the lands now held by the twelve towns was set apart and directed to be named Cambria.

EARLY OFFICERS.

The first town meeting was held at the house of Joseph Hewett. Robert Lee presided. The election resulted as follows: Joseph Hewitt, Supervisor; James Harrison, Town Clerk; Benjamin Barton and Charles Wilber, Commissioners of Highways; Lemuel Cooke, Silas Hopkins and John Dunn, Assessors; Stephen Hopkins, Collector; Philomen

Baldwin and Thomas Dayton, Overseers of the Poor; Silas Hopkins, Ray March, Stephen H. Baldwin and Alexander Haskins, Constables; Enoch Hitchcock and Thomas Hustler, Pound Masters; sixteen Overseers of Highways were chosen.

The next town meeting was held at Stephen Hopkins' house. Wolves were plentiful; \$100 was raised for their destruction; a bounty of \$5 for every one killed. The first vote for State Senator was sixteen. Peter B. Porter, for Member of Congress, received forty-three votes; Nathaniel W. Howell, twenty-eight, and Archibald Clark, two.

June 1, 1812, three new towns, Hartland, Niagara and Porter, were erected from the land of Cambria. In 1815 the remaining territory in Cambria was divided into nine school districts. On February 27, 1818, Lewiston was taken from the west part of Cambria. On February 2, 1824, Lockport was erected from Cambria and Royalton. The other towns in the County were formed by divisions of some of these towns.

Cambria is located west of the center of the County, is interior, and surrounded by her children and grandchildren. The town has two mountain ridges, called the upper and lower, running nearly east and west. The lower one crosses just south of the center and extends across the town. The upper one, upon which the Hamlet of Pekin is situated, passes nearly through. During the last few years the roads leading over these ridges have been much improved, at considerable expense to the town. There are two other ridges in the north part of the town, composed of sand and gravel; the south ridge leading to Lewiston and the north ridge running northwesterly from the old Molyneux hotel towards Ransomville.

MOLYNEUX CORNERS.

In Pioneer days, before railroads were built, lines of stages did a thriving business from Rochester to Lewiston. Then the old Molyneux hotel and other places on the Ridge Road were full of activity. Even as late as the election of Buchanan, to the Presidency, scores of men were waiting at Molyneux's for the coming of the stage to get the news. It is to be anticipated that the electric road, now planned from Rochester to Lockport and Buffalo, will build a branch along the Ridge Road to Lewiston and Niagara Falls—a paying investment.

The ways of farming and the products of the farm have materially changed in the last half century. Wheat and sheep for many years brought money enough into the farmers' hands to ensure success. When the price of those commodities began to decline farmers turned their attention to the growing of fruit. Large apple orchards were set, and, later, many different kinds of fruit. No better place for its growth can be found than that below the mountain in Cambria.

Molyneux's Corners, so well known in those early and later days, is about seven miles northwesterly from Lockport, and is situated on the place where the south and north ridge intersect, leading to Ransomville. Here, in 1809, John Gould, father of John Gould, Jr., and other children,

and grandfather of Dr. William B. Gould, who died a few years ago, in Lockport, opened a tavern in a log house. In 1811 he sold to one Odell and moved to Cambria Center, where he died. In 1812 Odell sold to Silas Hopkins, and Hopkins transferred his claim to William Molyneux, father of Charles, William and Robert, who carried on the hotel and farm till 1830, when the father died; after which Charles Molyneux continued the hotel business till his decease. In 1826 the Molyneuxs built the frame hotel, now used for that purpose.

SOME EARLY SETTLERS.

The first pioneer permanent settlers of the town were Phillip Beach and two brothers, Jesse and John, who began, in 1802, at Howell's Creek, on the south ridge road, west of Molyneux. Phillip Beach had carried the mail from Batavia to Fort Niagara, was a good citizen, and died, in 1840, on a farm a little east of Molyneux's. In 1810 Jesse Beach settled on a farm on the north ridge, where his son, Cyrus, lived many years, and died, respected by all. In 1811 Aaron Beach, an older brother, settled on the south ridge. Phillip Beach, in 1818, sold his farm to Joseph Hewitt, who two years later exchanged it with William Howell and moved to the mountain, above Lewiston. Here Mr. Howell built a sawmill, and kept a tavern, following those at Molyneux and Warren's Corners. Since that time the place has been known as Howell's Creek.

At Molyneux Corners the first postoffice was established, and William Molyneux was the first postmaster in the town. His son, Charles (father of the present Chief of Police, of Lockport), succeeded him. Since his death the postoffice has been held in different places near by, till the free mail delivery was established. Joash Taylor was an early settler on the ridge, about a mile east of Molyneux's.

In 1808 Harvey Steadman settled on 190 acres near where the Ridge Road struck the then swamp. His daughter, Adelia, married Homer, son of Joash Taylor. Mr. Steadman boarded those who built the log road across the swamp to Wright's Corners. In later years this road became a toll road.

John Forsyth settled at Warren's Corners, in 1805. The next year he opened a tavern. Ezra Warren, a soldier of 1812, married Mr. Forsyth's widow, and the place took its name from him. Settlers were few and often far apart at this time.

Dr. Artemus Baker, in 1815, settled near Warren's Corners. He was the first physician in the town. Before 1812 the settlers at and about Cambria Center were William Scott, Peter Nearpass, Enoch Hatch, Benjamin and Duchel Silly, David Waters and probably a few others not recorded.

William Scott settled on 500 acres, bought of the Holland Land Company, and cleared sixty acres of the same the first year. He soon after built and opened a tavern, much patronized for many years. After his death, in 1841, his widow and son, Homer, occupied it as a dwelling. William Scott, Jr., an older son, about this time came into possession of 200 acres of the northwest part of this land, married Louisa, daughter of Smith Brown, and successfully carried on farming till he was killed by a stroke of lightning, in 1855. His widow, yet living, married Albert Flanders, who died May 10, 1902.

THE GOULD FAMILY.

When John Gould moved from Molyneux's Corners to Cambria Center, in 1812, he bought of Nearpass 240 acres of land, about a half mile east of the Center, on which, later, his son, John Gould, Jr., lived many years. In 1846, while

teaching school in his district, our acquaintance began with John Gould, Jr. He was a man of many valuable attainments, wrote a good hand, kept a daily diary, held many places of honor and trust, and died, leaving the world better for his having lived in it. John Gould, Sr., lived in later years, on a farm bordering on the southeast corner of Cambria Center, till his death, at an old age; after which another honored son, David Gould, owned and lived on the same farm till he died. His widow died at the same place.

THE HOWDER FAMILY.

In 1812 Christopher Howder settled on 150 acres, on the lower mountain road, one and a half miles east of Cambria Center. From him have sprung, in direct line, George, Sylvester, Lott (dentist in Buffalo) and other Howders, now living in the town. Here a flour mill was once built, also a sawmill; the latter did some business up to 1845.

THE SWIFT FAMILY.

North of this place, on the road leading to Molyneux hotel, before 1820, Charles Sweet settled on 160 acres. He sold to Archa McNeil, and McNeil, in 1844, sold to Henry Swift, father of O. C., E. B., M. G. and W. H. Swift. In 1855 E. B., after selling his farm on Bear Ridge, in the Town of Pendleton, engaged with his brother, M. G., in the grocery trade, in Lockport. After nearly twenty years of business E. B. returned to Cambria, where he and his brother, Orrin C., now own and live in the old home, from which father, mother, brother Moses and others have departed. My first wife was a sister of Albert Flanders. She died, in 1890, without children. In 1892 Ella May Travis became my wife, from which union three children, Elisha Barlow Swift, Jr., Milo Travis Swift and Evangeline Marie Swift, have been placed on the world's stage of action.

OTHER FAMILIES.

Nearly a mile west of the old Howder place, where the two roads branch to the east, William Campbell, father of Joshua, Ezekiel and a large family, in 1817, bought of Enoch Hotchkiss 138 acres, where he lived many years. In old age, at the home of his son-in-law, Amos Crosby, grandfather of Dr. Crosby, in Lockport, he fell from a fence and died from the fall. About half a mile east of this Howder farm, on the now stone road, John M. Eastman located early. Eastman's wife was also a daughter of William Campbell. She died in old age, having been the mother of eleven children.

We now return west, towards Cambria Center, and on the north side of the road find the old home of Charles H. Averill, father of Orlando and Lorenzo (all now dead), and grandfather of Charles, now living in Lockport.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

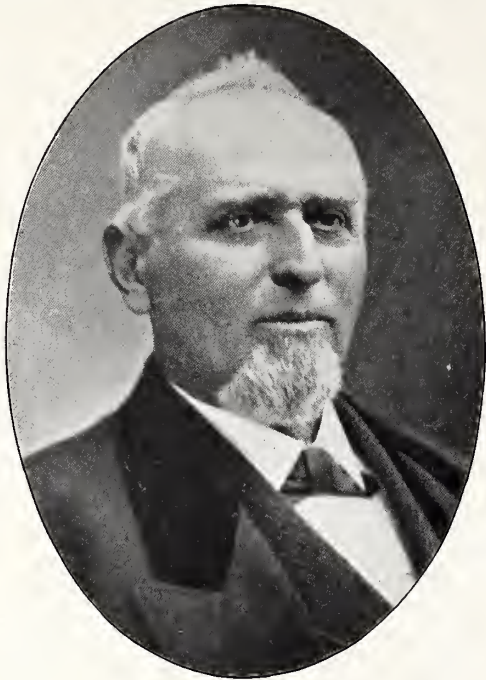
We now examine the records of the First Congregational Church Society of Cambria Center, written by John Gould, Jr., and find the following names subscribed to the first constitution of this society, in 1824. They were located nearly all over the town. It is gratifying to be able to place so many of the early pioneers of Cambria in the first history of the association. They were as follows:

Thomas Chamberlain, Thomas Chamberlain, Jr., William Towsly, William G. Hathaway, William Burnett, Jarvis Chamberlain, Adam Houstatter, Thomas Webber, John Houstatter, John Miles, Jr., Hezekiah Hill, Timothy Thompson, Wiley Bancroft, Jacob Houstatter, William Scott, Eliakim Hammond, Luther Crocker, Henry Saxton, Eben Kellogg, Timothy B. Goff, James Burnett, Elnathan Homes, John Gould, John Gould, Jr., Amasa Birchard, Jo-

siah Talbot, Solomon Crosby, Amos Crosby, Charles Hammond, William A. Scarborough, Daniel Beebe, Thomas Mighelles (Miles), Charles H. Averill, Abner Lay, Thomas Comstock, H. B. Scovell, H. Halsey.

The foregoing have all passed over the silent river. Soon after this time the names of Alvin Tennant and Calvin Thompson appear. Mr. Thompson, approaching the century mark, is one of the oldest left in town. A little farther west, on the south side of the road, Jacob Flanders, father of Lyman, Albert and a large family, settled, in 1820. We pass along by the old places, once held by the Schmecks,

vid Cross, Joshua Campbell, Ira Smith, Charles Sweet, Harry Hitchcock, Russel Scott, Jason Lane, Abel Baldwin, William Carney, Phillip Shaver, Aaron Rice and Alexander Freeman, father of John G. Freeman. Before 1830 they were Eliakim Hammond, Hiram McNeil (father of Hiram McNeil, once Mayor of Lockport), John Hills, James Burnett, Myron Orton, Jared Comstock, Edwin M. Clap, Ezekiel Campbell, Isaac Canfield, Moses and David Beach, Calvin Wilson, David Gould, Frederick Saxton, Daniel Oliver, William G. Hathaway, Silas Belding, Henry Springsteen, George Rose, Thomas C. Judd, William Prey, Iva Gregory,



CHARLES YOUNG.

Kittingers and Dodges, till we come to the once Dr. Myron Orton's farm. Here he settled, in 1815, and here he died, in 1873.

PEKIN.

Pekin is located on the upper mountain ridge, on the line between Cambria and Lewiston. Here a postoffice was established, in 1822, and named Mountain Ridge. John Jones was appointed postmaster. In 1831 the name of the place was changed to Pekin. When Lewiston was set off from Cambria, a portion of the place went with the transfer to Lewiston. The first settlers were the Reynolds and Carneys, and a little north of Pekin they were Beamer, Wilson, Bridge, Earls, and, as before stated, Dr. Orton and William Crosier settled a little east of the village, in 1821.

Among early settlers, in the southwest part of the town, were John Carney and Jairus Rose. Mr. Rose bought 600 acres, and soon added enough to make 2,000. In 1813 he planted two acres of apple seeds, and when they had grown fit to set, sold them at twelve cents each. His was the first nursery in the County. He was the father of George P. Rose, who lived and died on a part of the same land.

Before 1810 Joshua Cowell and Russell Weaver settled in the town. Pomeroy Oliver, in 1815; John Hitchcock, 1816; Daniel P. Oliver, 1817, and, in early years in different parts of the town, John Ingersoll, Jason Lane, John Miles, Hezekiah Hill, Elijah Smith, Coonrod Keyser and Samuel Faxon. Col. Andrew Sutherland and Philo Cornell, about 1812. Among the other early settlers were Reuben Hurd and James Barnes. Before 1820, among others, were Jonas Chamberlain, Charles Trowbridge, Daniel Alvord, Obed Smith, Eli Bruce, Jabez Rogers, David Jeffers, Roderick Royce, Arthur Saxton, Thomas Fowler, Caleb Bugbee, Da-



THERON S. ELTON.

Warren Chaffee, Ralph G. Warner, James G. White, Stephen Barnes. Before 1850 the residents were Sparrow S. Sage, S. Cady Murray, Thomas Root, John Pletcher, Hezekiah A. Nichols, John M. Eastman, John G. Freeman, William Elton, Josius T. Peterson, Josiah Pratt, Lorenzo Averill, David Gould, Calvin Thompson, Nathaniel Cook, Anson Eastman, Hunt Farnsworth, Hiram Flanders, Richard Hall, A. H. Houstatter, Thomas and Nelson T. Mighells, George W. Rose, John Williams, Erastus Weaver, Alfred Eddy, James Dutton, Joseph Miller, Elijah Parker, William O. Rogers, Gilbert Budd, William S. Howe, Samuel Saddleson, Henry Plate, Christopher and Ransom Saddleson, Louis Bevier, Nathaniel Brockway, David I. Brockway, Ransom Campbell, Lewis Burtch, in 1851.

CAMBRIA'S SEVEN CHURCHES.

There are seven churches in the Town of Cambria. The first Congregational Church was organized, in 1817, through David M. Smith, a minister at Lewiston. The Holland Land Company donated 100 acres of land to this, the first one established in town. This land was unimproved, and located at the head of the Gulf (now Town of Lockport). It was sold, in 1827, and about thirty acres, bought of Elickim Hammond, lying along the now Blackman Hill Road. This, after some years, was also sold, and about five acres purchased, for a parsonage, across the road from the present church building. Mrs. Thomas Comstock left \$500, the interest of which was to be used by the church. Deacon Lewis Daggett also left \$200, to be used in the same way. A long history could be written on this old church.

There are four more churches in the town. The Methodist Episcopal Church, on the North Ridge, was built about

1840, of cobble stones. Still further to the northwest is located the German Lutheran Church. On the north, and opposite side of the road, is a Catholic Church, and a little beyond these is the brick Universalist Church. The last has one of the finest burial grounds in the County.

The corporate name of the church at Pekin is "The Church of Christ." It was incorporated March 6, 1888, by Abraham Levan, John Bogwell, Clement J. Levan and Clifford D. Levan. Abraham Levan died several years since. The other incorporators, and Horace Allard, who is now a trustee in the society, are the leading members at present. The church building was erected, in 1888. The first pastor was Rev. James S. Bell, who served several years, and now his son, James L. Bell, is acting pastor of the society.

The corporate name of the German Church is "St. Andreas Evangelical Lutheran Church. Articles of incorporation were executed March 9, 1899, but not yet recorded in County Clerk's office. The minister who was serving the church at the time of the incorporation was Frederick O. Scholz. The present pastor is Rev. C. Franenstein. The church building was erected during the present year, 1902, and has recently been dedicated. The incorporators named are Frederick O. Scholz, August Werth, Christian Strassburg, Herman Milke, O. August Wentt and Henry Witkop.

TOWN SUPERVISORS.

The following is the list of the Supervisors of the town: Joseph Hewitt, 1808-9; Silas Hopkins, 1810; William Molyneux, 1811-12; Silas Hopkins, 1814; Bates Cooke, 1814; Joseph Hewitt, 1815-16; Rufus Spaulding, 1817; Asher Saxton, 1818; Daniel Pomeroy, 1819-20; Ephraim D. Richardson, 1821-22; Eliakim Hammond, 1823-26; John Hills, 1827-28; William Scott, 1829-30; John Hills, 1831; William Scott, 1832; William Molyneux, 1833-35; Charles Molyneux, 1836; Darius Shaw, 1837; Hiram McNeil, 1838-40; Eli Y. Barnes, 1841; John Gould, Jr., 1842; John Whitbeck, 1843; Moses Bairsto, Jr., 1844-45; Henry Snyder, 1846; Charles Molyneux, 1847-48; Hiram McNeil, 1849; John Gould, Jr., 1850; Sparrow S. Sage, 1851-52; Hiram McNeil, 1853; John Freeman, 1854; Thomas Barnes, 1855; Lewis Daggett, 1850-59; Hezekiah W. Nichols, 1860-62; Artemus W. Comstock, 1863-64; Lewis Daggett, 1865; Thomas Barnes, 1866-67; Artemus W. Comstock, 1868-69; Thomas Root, 1870-71; James A. Pool, 1872-73; Samuel Kittenger, 1874; George W. Gould, 1875-76; Salem L. Town, 1877-81; George L. Freer, 1882; Edward Manning, 1883-85; Edward Harmony, 1886-88; James L. Barnes, 1889-90; Edwin Harmony, 1891-92; Walter V. Peterson, 1893-98; William J. Baker, 1899-1902.

ELISHA B. SWIFT.

Elisha B. Swift, author of the foregoing sketch, of the Town of Cambria, is in his eightieth year, and hale and hearty. He is one of the ex-presidents of the Pioneer Association, and at the meeting of 1892 read the following original poem in honor of the fathers, which we reproduce as illustrative of the days of the pioneers.

Hail, all hail! on this memorial day,
The memory of those, who led the way
Over unbridged stream, and through forest deep,
And Freedom's Heritage, left us to keep.
Hail to the struggles of that by gone time,
When riding after oxen was no crime;
When peeled bark roofs, and floors that were split hewed,
Did very well—with doors and windows crude,—
When with straight, notched logs, the buildings were made,

And chimneys of rived sticks, in mud were laid;
The long, broad fire place, with a crane supplied,
Held pots and kettles, hanging side by side,
While underneath them, a great lot of wood,
In winter time, gave heat, and cooked the food;
And round before it, as the children grew,
They learned to laugh and weep—the same as you;—
O, I see, as I saw, long years ago,
When the world was pictured, with boyhood's glow,
Those noble pioneers;—and be it mine,
To lay one, small wreath, to the memory's shrine!
O, yes! before me today, seem to stand
Those men and women, a courageous band,
Who braved the trials of wilderness life,
And labored unceasing through years of strife,
To clear up the forest and build the home
Upon which rests safely, proud freedom's dome!
And have left deeds on the records of time;
Deeds that shall blazon in story and song,
When we shall have passed with the unseen throng,
To that other land, where pioneers rest
In the care of Him who loved them best.
Hail then; let's all hail, this pioneer day.
The memory of those who carved their way,
Over unbridged stream, and through forest deep,
And freedom's altar fire left us to keep.

Town of Wartland.

BY ESEK ALDRICH.



WARTLAND was formed from Cambria, June 1, 1812, and at that time contained the towns of Roy-alton, Somerset and a part of Newfane. It is the central town upon the eastern border of the county, an inland town, the only one in the county untouched by water craft or railway transportation. The



ESEK ALDRICH.

Ridge Road passes through the south half of the town. The soil south of the ridge consists of a mixture of clay loam and gravel and is quite uniform and fairly productive. The soil north of the Ridge Road is not so uniform; in many portions a light sandy soil prevails; a heavier soil with con-

siderable clay and cobble stone is the feature of other portions. The northern portion of the town is mostly of a muck soil, very productive. In a state of nature it consisted of black ash swamps, alder swamps, huckleberry swamps, the cranberry and tamarack swamps. But a comparatively few years ago this whole region, known as the north woods, was considered quite worthless. Ample drainage, of which the Big Ditch is the main artery, has made this great change possible.

It is said that change is written upon everything. A retrospect back to the days of the writer's earliest recollection proves the saying true so far as the town of Hartland is concerned, when forest was the rule and field the exception; and the highways, except the Ridge Road, were literally mortar beds a great portion of the year. But forests were soon forced farther and farther back by the continual swing of the woodman's axe, and Buck and Broad hauled the logs which the pioneer, with handspike, rolled into larger heaps which the fire soon consumed, and thus the fields fast gained upon the forest. The thrifty crops soon hid the stumps and the pioneer was encouraged.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The first settlement in the town was made in 1803 by John and David Morrison, Zebulun Barnum, Oliver Castle, Jedediah Riggs, Isaac Southwell and Daniel Brown. The first inn was opened by Jephtha Dunn in 1809; the first store by Daniel Van Horn in 1816; the first school was taught by Nancy Judson, sister of the late George Judson, in 1813. Dr. Butterfield, Dr. Reynolds and Dr. Craine were the pioneer physicians in town. Later on and up to 1815 and 1816 there were many new comers, among whom may be mentioned Deacon James Edmonds, Henry Taylor and his brothers Christopher and Jacob; John Secor, James Shaw, Daniel Chaplain, E. B. Seeley, Benjamin Cornell, B. H. Benson, Elijah French, Thomas F. Stewart, Dexter P. Sprague, Col. Richard Weaver, Samuel B. Morehouse, Levi Hall, Christopher H. Skeels, Daniel Seaman, John Mudge, Jesse Aldrich, Joseph Birdsall and several sons grown to manhood. And still later on other arrivals settled in different parts of the town and assisted in subduing the wilds, viz: the Rickfords, Harringtons, Darlings, Kittridges and Samuel Gladding. The Vokes, Braileys and Gills settled on the road running north of Hartland Corners and were important factors in developing that uninviting locality, transforming it into pleasant and productive farms. Michael Robson, early in the history of our town, came from England, and located about one-half mile southeast of Johnson Creek, developed a beautiful farm, upon which he died at the ripe age of 96 years, leaving many worthy descendants, two of whom, Mrs. Eliza Garbut and Mrs. Ella Wilcox, granddaughters, are now living upon the old homestead.

Platt Betts, whose father moved to Canada in 1822 from Otsego County, New York, was born in the town of Whitby, Canada, April 23, 1825; came to Hartland in 1836; married Caroline Bradley, raised a large family; now all married and living in various and distant parts of our county, leaving the aged couple as lonely as when they commenced married life.

DESCENDANTS OF THE PIONEERS.

A present census would not show a very great number of the descendants of those early pioneers now living in the town. Many have removed to different and distant parts of our country, but a great majority of them have gone to that bourne from which no traveler returns. To mention some of such survivors we notice George B. Taylor and Abram

Taylor and Sarah Chase and Caroline Boyd, sons and daughters of Henry Taylor; Lovina Smith, daughter of Christopher H. Skeels, now living on the farm her father left her; William and Sarah Chase and Caroline Boyd, sons and daughters of Henry Taylor; Lavina Smith, daughter of Christopher H. Seaman, on the farm his father settled upon; Seward Mudge, grandson, and Dr. Murry Mudge, great grandson, of the pioneer John Mudge. Dr. Mudge recently located at Johnson Creek and commenced the practice of medicine, and apparently is getting his share of patronage. Aaron and Henry Bickford are the representatives of the Bickford pioneers. They are both thrifty farmers and the latter a veteran of the war of the sixties, serving out a three years' enlistment and then re-enlisting and serving to the finish. Philena F. Clark, now living on the farm formally owned by her grandfather, James Edmonds; R. R. Weaver, son of Col. Weaver; John Gill, now living in the vicinity of Johnson Creek, is the principal representative of the Gill pioneers; Jesse A. Gladding, son of Samuel Gladding; Asa P. and Esek Aldrich, sons of Jesse Aldrich, who in 1816 located upon 200 acres of land on what is known as the Quaker Road. He raised a large family of children and taught school fourteen terms, although his school days consisted of only a few months; by common consent occupied the head of the high seat at Quaker meetings; died at the exact age of eighty-eight years. Mary Brownell, daughter of Jesse Birdsall, is probably the oldest person living who was born in this town. She was born in a house without doors or windows and cradled in half of a hollow log. She is in her eighty-seventh year. Her mind remains sound and clear, although her "head is bending low." She yet goes several miles to attend religious service at the Quaker Church, of which society she has been a member from her birth. Frank B. Seeley, a veteran of the Civil War, was a son of the early pioneer, Ebenezer Seeley; Louisa Bennett, daughter of John Secor; Amos Castle, son of Oliver Castle; George Martin, living near the village of Middleport, a thorough and successful farmer, son of Richard Martin, who was living in Canada at the time of the declaration of war in 1812. Having greater respect and love for the American eagle than for the British lion he took his wife with him in a small skiff and crossed Lake Ontario at great peril. He finally settled two miles north of Johnson Creek village and was long known as one of the prominent farmers in the town. His form was straight as an arrow and he lived well into the sixties before yielding to Old King Time.

TOWN OFFICERS.

The first town meeting for the election of town officers in the town of Hartland was held in the barn of Enoch Hitchcock on April 7, 1812, at which time the following persons were elected: Supervisor, Ephraim Waldo; Town Clerk, William Smith; Assessors, Samuel Jenks, Harry Elsworth, David Weasner; Highway Commissioners, John Dunn, John Bates, Benjamin Wakeman; Collector, Amos Brownson; Overseers of the Poor, James Lyman, Stephen Wakeman; Constable, Amos Brownson.

The following is a list of persons who have represented the town on the Board of Supervisors more or less terms: Ephraim Waldo, James Lyman, Dexter P. Sprague, Asahel Johnson, James Wisner, Smith Darling, Daniel Van Horn, Frankling Butterfield, Christopher H. Skeels, Daniel Chaplain, James C. Lewis, Daniel Seaman, John Dunigan, A. H. Jameson, George L. Angevine, William Wheeler, T. A. Wright, Linus Spalding, Curtis Root, William Morgan, Thomas Brown, E. O. Seaman, John L. Beardsley, George



JAY S. ROWE.



WM. SEAMAN.



JOHN GILL.



CALVIN U. SMITH.



SYLVESTER G. ROOT.

B. Taylor, John L. Chase, James Allen, Abram Taylor, Jay S. Rowe, F. R. Montgomery and the present incumbent, Myron Silsby.

The Second Assembly District of Niagara County has been represented four terms in the State Assembly by citizens of Hartland, the late Hon. William Morgan serving two terms and Hon. Jay S. Rowe two terms. Esek Aldrich and Fred J. Swift each served two terms as School Commissioner.

TOWN MAGISTRATES.

A full catalogue of town magistrates is hardly admissible in a brief sketch of town history, but as Justices of the Peace of early days may be mentioned C. H. Skeels, Daniel Seaman and Christopher H. Taylor. A peculiarity of Esquire Skeel's officiating was that he rarely failed to induce the parties to settle their matters and part in friendship. He was admirably well qualified by nature to succeed in such undertakings. He never wished to try a case for what there was in it for him. Among others of later date who have held the office of Justice of the Peace may be mentioned Harry Harrington, Henry Warren, Horatio N. Hand, Jesse A. Gladding, Asa P. Aldrich, George B. Taylor, Gordon Rowe, Andrew Welsher, Solomon Richardson, Seward Mudge, George Bixler and George Clark.

Our rural lawyers or pettifoggers, or whatever appellation is more appropriate, have often had the regulars from town pitted against them in courts of special sessions, who found them to be "foemen worthy of their steel," among whom may be named Jesse A. Gladding, Frederick R. Montgomery, the late Sylvester Young and A. H. Jameson.

JOHNSON CREEK AND HARTLAND.

The villages of Johnson Creek and Hartland are the oldest settled places in town. In the early days the village of Hartland was called Morehouse's, from the fact that Samuel B. Morehouse built a large and commodious hotel here, and he was known throughout the land as an exceedingly live man. This hotel and the brick store at this place, for many years owned by Thomas F. Stewart, are no longer standing, both being devoured by the fiery element. There are now at this place two stores, blacksmith and wagon shop, Methodist Episcopal Church and school house. Johnson Creek is a village of about 450 inhabitants. That part of the village east of the Creek road, and on the north side of the ridge, consists principally of the several portions taken from the farm of Henry Taylor, who located on this land June 16, 1816. The land on the south side of the road east of the creek was owned by Thomas F. Stewart, John Secor and others, and west of the creek by Stewart and others. The first frame house built at this place is now used by John L. Chase as a wagon house. It was built by Thomas F. Stewart. John Secor had a small grocery store as early as 1812. He also kept a tavern. Mr. Secor was a surveyor and a man of business generally. James and Daniel Van Horn opened a grocery and dry goods store in 1815. This firm was succeeded by George Reynolds in 1818. There are at present in this village two stores, one hotel, two blacksmith shops, two cooperages, tin shop, broom factory, church and school house and grist mill near by.

The first grist mill built in town was near where the Quaker Road crosses the Ridge Road. It consisted of a white oak stump sawed square off and dug out in the shape of a mortar. The pestle was worked by the aid of a spring pole. The larger grists were taken to Rochester, Niagara Falls or Schlosser.

GAME.

The wild game in those early days was quite plentiful, consisting of deers, bears, wolves, wildcats, foxes, coons, porcupines, woodchucks, skunks, white rabbits and the chattering black, gray and red squirrels. Among the birds the pigeon, quail and partridge were considered desirable game. In the reptile world the rattling massasauger was walloped to a finish without benefit of clergy. And now we have left the woodchuck and skunk, the little gray rabbit, an occasional red squirrel and lots of Norway rats and mice.

The deer and the bear were mostly hunted to death, but very few of the wolves were ever captured; being fleet of foot and crafty, they preferred migration to annihilation. I recollect of only two being shot in town, although we had many wolf hunts, driving the woods with horns, bells, etc. The men on the runway would be a little too far one way or the other, or their rifles would miss fire. William Gilmore caught a very large one in a steel trap near the tamarack swamp on Quaker Road and kept him alive many days. When people called to see the wolf Mr. Gilmore's little boy would climb onto him and pull his mouth open to show his great teeth, the wolf submitting to all as quietly as the most docile pet. For two successive years a Tonawanda Indian went down into the north woods with bow and arrows and returned with large litters of little wolf whelps. On being asked why he did not take his gun and shoot the old one his answer was: "No more buppies." We have never heard of any wolves in town since the Indian's last capture of "buppies." The last bear heard from in town was caught in a large steel trap by Jeremiah Webster, the trap being securely attached to a tree by a log chain. Mr. Webster on visiting his trap found a monster of the bruin family performing some wonderful feats of lofty and ground tumbling with trap attached to his fore leg. Mr. Webster thought he would enjoy bruin's gymnastics awhile before dispatching him, but soon a favorable position enabled the bear to withdraw his leg from the trap and disappear in the bush before Mr. Webster could get the drop on him. He said if an elephant had stepped on him he would not have felt any flatter.

THE OLD AND NEW.

How different the customs of the present time to those of earlier days in many respects. Notice the change in regard to wearing apparel. Formerly every farmer was the possessor of more or less sheep and would raise a quantity of flax, supposed to be sufficient to furnish summer clothing for the family. A minute description of the different processes by which the flax crop is made ready for the loom might be considered "too tagus to mention," as Pat said when asked in court to state the particulars in regard to the scrimmage when he got his face so badly battered. Suffice it to say that it is sown like other grain, harvested by pulling and binding in bundles, in the fall spread thinly in rows upon the grass ground, when sufficiently rotted taken up, bound in bundles again, stored in the barn, in the spring men break it, hatchel it, swing it and hank it. It is now very much in the form of children's rag babies and is ready for the women who hatchel it through a finer toothed implement. The portion thus taken out is called tow and what is left is called flax. The flax is spun on the little wheel for warp and the tow is spun on the big wheel for filling. In passing through the loom it comes out what is called tow and linen cloth. The mothers knew how to wield the shears and ply the needle, and presto, the boys were soon clad anew in pants, vests and skirtless roundabouts or sailor coats. Straw



HARVEY E. ALLEN.



CHAS SEWARD.



J. C. WATTS.



JESSE A. GLADDING.



FRANCIS A. GOULD



CHAS. F. ACKERSON.

hats and cloth caps of home manufacture was the head gear for summer and winter. With the exceptions of carding the wool into rolls, pulling, dyeing and dressing or shearing the flannel, the work on winter clothing was generally done at home. The women wore calico and sunbonnets for summer and flannel dresses and hoods for winter. Of course there were some silks and leghorn bonnets, and some broadcloths and fur hats. Tramp shoemakers "whipped the cat," as it was called, going from house to house, butchering leather and making ill-fitting foot gear, the girls' shoes often made of father's old boot legs, but they were new shoes all the same and the girls were happy. Yet it is a well known and gratifying fact that in this free land of ours many from such lowly and humble positions have attained to eminence and world wide fame in the various professions, occupations and lines of pursuit.

All that was taught in our pioneer schools was the three Rs and spelling; no class recitations except reading and spelling, yet the teacher was quite busily employed doing sums, mending goose quill pens and inflicting the penalties for broken laws or 'rules of school.'

CHURCHES.

Religious service was quite generally held at the school houses, but in due time church edifices were erected that afford more than sufficient accommodation for all comers. There are six churches in town. The Baptist Church at Johnson Creek, the Quaker Church one mile west, the Methodist Episcopal Church at Hartland, another Methodist Episcopal at North Hartland, Protestant Methodist on Quaker Road and St. Patrick's Church on Quaker Road near the north town line.


THE RED MEN.

There is sufficient evidence to show that the Red man was here long before our pioneer days. The imperishable flint arrow heads, implements of war and the chase, are found in many places in town. About one and a half miles southwest of Johnson Creek village on the Castle farm once existed an ancient circular earthwork about twenty rods in diameter, evidently for defensive purposes. Its walls were about three feet high, upon which were trees as large as those in the surrounding forest. Upon plowing and tilling the land occupied by this fortification arrow heads and other relics were found in abundance.

The town of Hartland at date is generally considered fairly productive, well fruited, the inhabitants well housed, well clad, well fed and are comparatively happy, each seeking his own rather than his neighbor's welfare more generally than in pioneer days.

Town of Royalton.

BY CAPT. C. V. MESLER AND MISS MAY H. MESLER.

 HE Town of Royalton was one of the towns taken from Hartland, in 1817. A portion of Royalton was separated to form the Town of Lockport, in 1824, yet Royalton is now the largest town in the County, and comprises 38,820 acres of land. While the town was once a wilderness waste, it now boasts of some of the finest farms in the State, where the most improved farm machinery is used.

FIRST TOWN MEETING.

The first town meeting was held April 7, 1818, at the home of Almond H. Millard, a Justice of the Peace, who pre-

sided. At this time the first set of town officers were elected, as follows:

Almond Williams, Supervisor; William Smith, Town Clerk; Warren Rosekrans, Henry Ellsworth and Asher Freeman, Assessors; James Lyman and Nathan Comstock, Overseers of the Poor; Allen Williams, Robert H. Henderson and Benjamin H. Packard, Commissioners of Common Schools; William Smith, Nathan Comstock and Noah Brooks, Commissioners of Highways; Solomon Richardson and Samuel Comstock, Constables and Collectors; Almond H. Millard, Burroughs Holmes, Nathan Comstock, Joel Amsden and William Green, Inspectors; and fifteen Fence Viewers and Overseers of Highways, as follows: Pharlarius Russell, James Williams, Jr., Demas Hart, Ezra Harwood, Cyrus Tripp, James Webb, Solomon Mead, William Letts, Nathan Comstock, Samuel White, John Griswold, Paul Sawyer, David C. Culver, Barney Allen, Reuben Hayes.

THE COMING OF THE SLAYTONS.

Orsamus Turner, in his "History of the Holland Purchase," gives the following account of the settlement of the Town of Royalton: "The pioneer in all the region was Thomas Slayton. He was on his way to Canada, with his family, broke his wagon down about two miles east of Cold Springs, stopped in consequence, liked the country, took up land and chopped an acre or two. His horses having strayed away from his log cabin, he went in pursuit of them, and in his rambles saw the fine soil and the black walnut groves below the mountain, and soon changed his location, becoming the founder of Slayton's Settlement." His brother, Joshua, came the next spring, from Vermont. The name "Royalton" was given by Joshua Slayton to the place from Royalton, Vermont, whence the Slaytons came.

The Slayton genealogy states that "Joshua Slayton was born April 10, 1783, in Woodstock, Vermont. He and others, from Vermont, went into Western New York early in the spring of 1804 and located where his brother, Thomas, had settled the previous autumn. He married Polly Darling, July 10, 1805, in Royalton, I think. Joshua Slayton was in the War of 1812. He died in Royalton, January 23, 1852. He was the father of twelve children." Turner's history states that Joshua Slayton resided at Jackson, Michigan, later in life, but his descendants state that this is a mistake, it being a Joshua Slayton, his son.

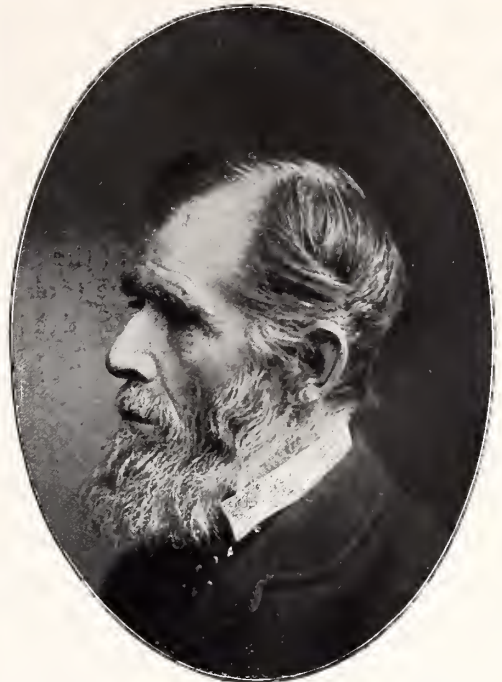
SOME WORTHIES OF SLAYTON SETTLEMENT.

Joshua Slayton built his first house on land now owned by Edward B. Gaskill, near the school house on Slayton Settlement road, north of the Village of Orangeport, where an orchard now stands back from the road on a little rise of ground. A parcel of land, containing 123 acres, surrounding his first settlement, was deeded to him, in 1818, by Joseph Ellicott, the surveyor, who secured so much land from the Holland Land Company for services. Part of this land, on which the Orangeport Christian Church was built, in 1818, was donated by him to William Smith, Nathan Stone and Benjamin Hall, trustees of the "First Christian Society in said Town of Royalton," in 1825. This site is now included in the land of the Orangeport Cemetery Association, the second church having been built on a near by site.

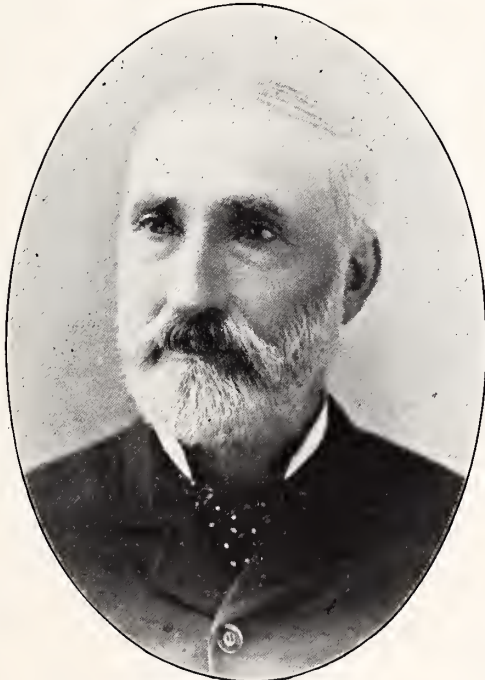
Joshua Slayton sold off some of his land to Varney Gaskill, Doves Norton and Roger Avery; and also to others for lots in the Village of Orangeport. The remaining, and by far the larger portion of his original holding, he deeded to his son, Joseph, November 29, 1836, a portion of which is owned by the family at the present time. Joseph Slayton



DR. FRANKLIN L. KNAPP.



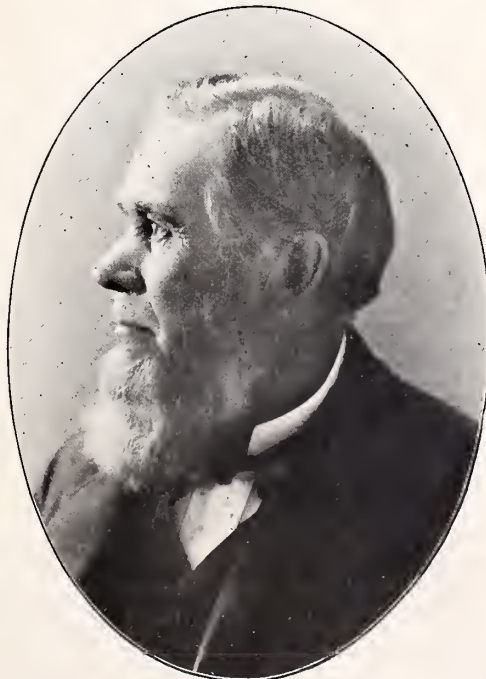
NOAH L. BRONSON.



JOHN W. SHAFER



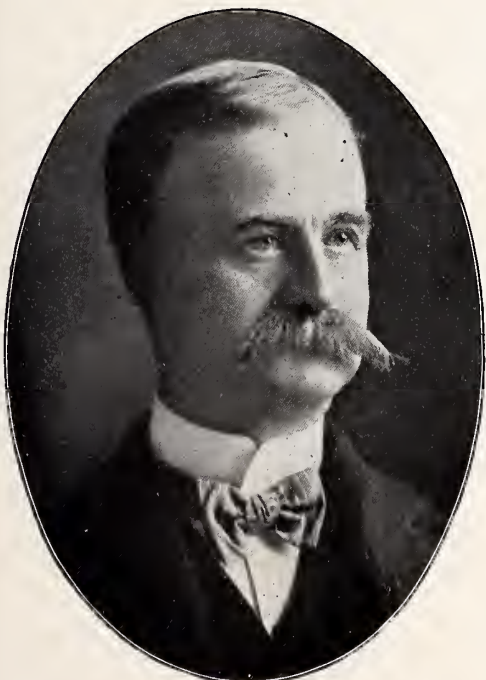
HENRY SLAYTON.



JOHN P. SAWYER.



CHAS. DAY.



ARZA G. SHERWOOD.

was born March 20, 1811; his brother, James Culwood Slayton, June 25, 1808; and his sister, Desire, May 15, 1809. They were among the first born on the Holland Purchase. Turner's history accords Daniel Vaughan the distinction of being the first white child born in the town; the date of Vaughan's birth is not given, though it is supposed by some to have been about 1806.

Two years after Thomas Slayton settled in Royalton Stephen Bugbee and Aaron Brown took up land in the vicinity. The first frame house was erected by Mr. Bugbee and Mr. Brown built the first frame barn, in 1804.

Land was rapidly cleared and houses erected from this time on, and the district in the neighborhood of the Slayton brothers has since been known as Slayton Settlement, where there are yet descendants of the early Slayton settlers, who bear the name of the pioneers.

Starting from the corner of the Slayton Settlement and Orangeport roads, Abel Bugbee took up the lot of land on the southeast corner, which was deeded to him by Joseph Ellicott, August 20, 1814. Stephen Bugbee took the next lot east, securing his deed from the Holland Land Company, in 1809. This farm is now in possession of his grandson, H. H. Bugbee. Next east, Benjamin Hale took up land, February 25, 1819, from the Holland Land Company. Most of this tract is now owned by Arnold Button.

AN OLD DEED.

A curious old document is shown by H. H. Bugbee, a deed of the land he owns at present, together with that comprised in the farm of D. W. Moore, and half of that of Henry Harrington, which was conveyed to his grandfather, Stephen Bugbee, in 1809, by the Holland Purchase in these words: "This indenture, made this 14th day of August, in the year of our Lord, 1809, between Wilhelm Willink, Pieter Van Eeghen, Hendrik Vollenhoven and Rutger Jan Schimmelpenninck, all of the City of Amsterdam, in the Republic of Batavia, by Joseph Ellicott, their attorney, of the first part, and Stephen Bugbee, witnesseth that said parties of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of \$247, to them in hand paid by said party of the second part, do grant, bargain, sell," etc., etc.

The first marriage in the town was between Henry Ellsworth and Polly Cornish, in the spring of 1810.

The nearest postoffice was at Batavia, until 1826, when the post routes were established. The first postoffice in this town was at Reynales Basin, and as the town increased in population a demand for better mail accommodations sprung up, until nine postoffices were established in the town. The rural free delivery service was started in 1901, reducing the number of offices to two, Middleport and Gasport, four routes starting from the former place and three from the latter.

The first religious meeting in the neighborhood of the Slayton Settlement was in 1808. Elder Joel Doubleday, of the Christian denomination, officiated. The church founded by him is the first established upon the lands of the Holland Purchase, except the church built by Brant, at Lewiston. Dr. David Dunn was the first physician in that part of the town, Ezra Harwood the first merchant; Thomas, or Joshua, Slayton raised the first crops; William Curtis planted the first orchard.

SUPERVISORS.

The Supervisors of the town have been as follows:

1818-20, Almond Millard; 1821, Nathan Comstock; 1822-23, Daniel Washburn; 1824-27, John Garnsey; 1828-30, Asher Freeman; 1831, D. S. Fenn; 1832, Asher Freeman;

1833, Ethan Fenn; 1834-37, James Baldwin; 1838-40, David Hurd; 1841, John McNall; 1842, David Hurd; 1843, Peter Murphy; 1844-45, Samuel Z. Ross; 1846, Grandus Dav-enport; 1847, William S. Fenn; 1848-49, Alfred Colwell; 1850, Samuel Z. Ross; 1851-52, Alonzo W. Newcomb; 1853, John Thorn; 1854-55, Oliver R. Brown; 1856-59, Alonz W. Newcomb; 1860, Alfred Colwell; 1861-62, Rufus W. Briggs; 1863-65, Robert F. Pierson; 1866-67, Orrin L. Hudnut; 1868, Chauncey Sheldon; 1869-70, Marcus Mabee; 1871-72, Elijah H. Woodworth; 1873-74, Orrin L. Hudnut; 1875-76, John P. Brown; 1877-79, Francis Hunter; 1880-81, Ruth-ven Kill; 1882-84, George B. Holdridge; 1885-87, Racine C. Clark; 1888-90, Francis Hunter; 1891-92, William W. John-son; 1893-94, Caleb C. McNair; 1895-96, John L. Sheldon; 1897-98, Arza G. Sherwood; 1898-1902, F. S. A. Coon.

MIDDLEPORT.

The Village of Middleport sprung into existence almost entirely because of the building of the canal. The only business near the place previous to that time was done at Freeman's Corners, a half mile to the southward. The village derived its name from the fact that it is about midway between Lockport and Albion.

In "Landmarks of Niagara County" there are the following statements relative to the early history of the town: "The land on which the village stands was formerly owned by Arunah Bennett, on the west side of Main street, south of the canal; by William Taylor, on the east side, south of the canal; by Gad Mather, on the east side of Vernon street, north of the canal; and by F. B. Lane, on the west side of Vernon street, north of the canal. James Northam opened the first store in the village, in 1822, in a small frame building, erected by him about where Main street crosses the canal, and near the canal bank. A. S. Baker was his clerk. Mr. Northam subsequently sold out his business to John Craig and Thomas Dunlap, and they were succeeded by Lane & Baker. G. & E. Mather established a small tannery, in 1824, and also carried on a boot and shoe business. Smith & Calkins were blacksmiths, about 1820 and later. John Macker began here about 1830, as a tailor, the first in the place. He was followed by Messrs. Bridgeman, Stone, Snell and Charles Wilcox. In 1840 John Van Brocklin established a blast furnace, the first and only one ever in the village; it was later operated by his son."

Among the physicians at Middleport have been Dr. Hurd and Dr. Electus Cole, the latter being killed in a run-away accident, in 1885. Dr. C. W. Gould came to Middleport in 1871, and enjoyed a large practice until 1885, when he removed to Chicago, where he is the representative in that city of the Gould Coupler Company, which he no doubt finds more profitable than the practice of medicine. Dr. C. M. Garland came to Middleport, in 1876, and went to Rochester, in 1888, and afterward to New York. Dr. John B. Hover has practiced since 1883, and has served two terms as president of the village. Dr. H. A. Wilmot came to Middleport as the principal of the school, in 1873; he subsequently attended medical college, and began to practice in 1877; he was the first President of the Board of Education, and is the present health officer of the village. Dr. T. A. Addy came from Canada some two years ago.

EARLY SETTLERS NEAR MIDDLEPORT.

Among the early settlers in the vicinity of Middleport were the following:

James Lyman settled a mile southwest of Middleport, in 1806. He was accompanied by James Williams, who had

learned the trade of blacksmithing, and married Mr. Lyman's daughter, Sallie. From this union sprung the Williams family, who are residents of Middleport at the present day. Erastus Williams, son of James and Sallie Williams, is thought by many to have been the first white child born in the town, but as the date of his birth is stated to have been in the year 1814 the claim would appear not to be well founded.

Asher Freeman moved into the country around Middleport about the year 1810, and raised a family of eleven, nine boys and two girls. Two of the former are still living in the vicinity. Seven of these sons were voters in the same locality at one time, all of them ardent Whigs, and, in 1840, they all cast their votes for William Henry Harrison. A son of Philip Freeman, one of their brothers, Frank B. Freeman,

road, running from Lockport to McNalls. Mr. Labar is a great reader and his eyes are yet so clear that he may be said to have attained his second sight. In connection with this sketch we reproduce a group picture, recently taken, which shows four generations of the family, the venerable great grandfather, his son and namesake, the daughters of the latter—Mrs. Chase, wife of Prof. E. H. Chase, superintendent of schools of Queensborough, Greater New York, and Mrs. H. C. Ketcham—and a child of each of the two latter. John W. Labar was a member of the Legislature of 1857—the first Republican Assemblyman from Niagara County. Mr. Labar moved to Griswold street, south of Middleport, in 1835. He has lived since in six towns of the County and owned property in seven. Mr. Labar's father, Joseph M. Labar, was born in Paris and came to this country with La



JOHN W. LABAR, JOHN W. LABAR, JR., AND FAMILY.

occupies a fine farm just south of the Village of Middleport.

William Ewings settled, in 1814, three miles south of Middleport, and, in 1815, sold out the article he took from the Holland Purchase Company to Joseph Odell. He then moved half a mile south of the village, where he lived and died. He left two sons, William and Isaac, and a daughter, who became the wife of Daniel Van Brocklin.

Joseph Odell, who purchased from William Ewings the article to the first land he took up, moved in, in 1815, when his son, afterward Col. A. T. Odell, was five years old. Col. Odell had four other sons, William, Alanson, Erastus and Elijah, and four daughters. Col. A. T. Odell has three children living, C. W. and J. M. Odell, and a daughter, Mrs. Adeline Chubbuck. A daughter of Joseph Odell married Philip Freeman, father of Frank B. Freeman. There are three other daughters, Mrs. Francis Hunter, Mrs. Isaac Ewings and Mrs. Burt Graves.

ROYALTON'S OLDEST CITIZEN.

One of the oldest, if not the oldest, male resident of the County, is the venerable John W. Labar, who is now living in the Town of Royalton, at the age of 95. He was born in Montgomery County, New York, in 1807, and is now living with his son, John W. Labar, Jr., on the Chestnut Ridge

Fayette, and was on the firing line at Brandywine and Yorktown.

INDUSTRIES OF MIDDLEPORT.

The plant of the Hartland Paper Company is one of the most important industries of Middleport and has been for many years. The business originated about thirty years ago, having been established by Pierson McLean. The product was straw paper. Mr. McLean sold out the business, in 1884, to Messrs Sterrett, Eddy and Rowley, and, in 1886 he became sole owner. In 1891 Mr. Sterrett and a number of citizens of Lockport organized the Hartland Paper Company, with a capacity for the production of 2,500 tons a year. The company failed about a year ago, and for several months the business has been in charge of the receiver, George E. Greene. For two months past it has been conducted by Howard Helmer, and in July of this year was merged into the United Box Board and Paper Company, into which huge corporation, capitalized at nearly \$30,000,000, many of the plants of the kind throughout the country have been consolidated.

The sash and blind factory is a much more recent institution, which, when in operation, furnished employment to a goodly number of hands. But this business has suffered



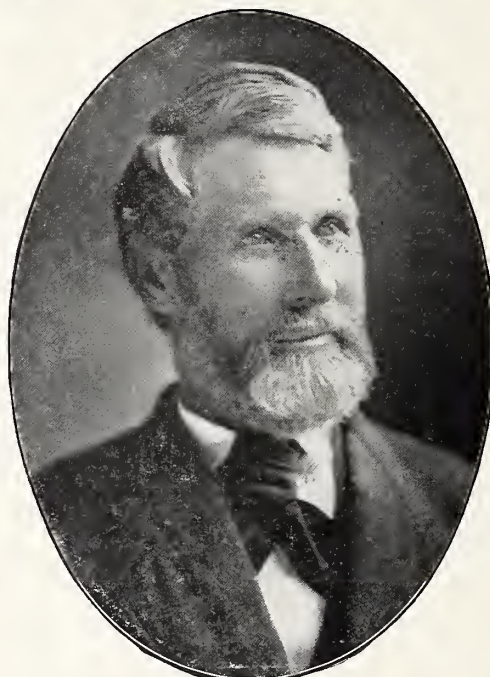
GEO HUMPHREY



GEO. F. THOMPSON



J. I. SHELDON. JR.



ABSOLOM MESLER.



C. E. METCALF



E. B. FRENCH.



WILLIAM G. RICHARDSON.

many vicissitudes. The plant was burned out and afterward rebuilt, but it has been closed down for some time.

The most important institution of Middleport is the canning factory, that was built there, in 1883, and, in 1884 went into possession of Charles H. Francis. The business has since been merged into that of the Batavia Preserving Company, who also have factories at Brockport and Batavia. The Middleport plant is an immense receiver of fruit of all kinds, which is packed in glass and tin, and the factory is running constantly the year round. Mr. Francis is the manager of all three plants.

GASPORT AND VICINITY.

Reynales Basin, a mile east of Gasport, was in the early days of the canal quite a metropolis in its way. A great deal

advent of the Erie Canal. He was raised on the farm of his father, now known as the Failing farm, removing while in his teens to the Reynales Basin tavern, in which he succeeded his father as proprietor, continuing there as tavern keeper and farmer until his removal to Lockport, in 1886, eight years before his death, which occurred on March 17, 1894.

Among the prominent families in the locality may be mentioned the Richardson, the Norris Brown, the Deuel and other families.

The growth of Gasport put an end to the progress of the thriving little "burg" of Reynales Basin, and also that of Orangeport, which was the center of influence of the region of the Slayton Settlement. Reynales Basin and Orangeport



BENJAMIN F. FREEMAN, LYDIA L. FREEMAN STEEL, DORRIS WINIFRED STEEL, BENJAMIN FREEMAN STEEL.

of produce was shipped from this point. J. W. Shaffer, in 1857, and a few years thereafter, operated a general store, and there are many people for miles around who remember trading with him. In 1870 he built his cold storage plant at that point. The place was named after George Reynale, who located there after the completion of the canal and opened a general store. The first postoffice in the town was established at Reynales Basin, and it is a fact worthy of note that Noah L. Bronson, one of the early postmasters, filled that office for twenty-three years, from 1863 to 1886, through Democratic and Republican administrations, though Mr. Bronson was a Republican. He was a son of Lee Bronson and Amanda Upson Bronson, and was born at Manlius, Onondaga County, New York, February 5, 1814. When six years of age he moved with his parents to Reynales Basin, Town of Royalton, some time previous to the

are nearly two miles apart. Gasport stands midway. This latter town owes its name to the fact that inflammable gas formerly arose from certain springs, that were subsequently destroyed in digging the canal. The gas was for a time piped to a store and warehouse at Gasport, and there was "light to burn."

STEALING THE DEPOT

The hydra-headed monopolists of Gasport were not satisfied with their natural advantages. They began to have designs upon the neighboring hamlets. In 1852 the Niagara Falls branch of the New York Central Railway was completed and stations were established. One was at May-bee's Crossing, near Reynales Basin, and another at Orangeport. The Gasport people thought these stations were too near together and entirely too far for their own convenience. Consequently some of the more enterprising

spirits put their heads together and held some mighty deliberations. They secured the consent of the railway authorities and, becoming for the nonce buccaneers and filibusterers, perfected a plan to actually steal the depot from under the eyes of the worthy burghers of Orangeport. They hid themselves to that peaceful hamlet, raised the depot on trucks, but were driven off by the wrathful feminine residents of the place, who sent a volley of decayed products of the hen where they would do the most good. But the Gasport "bandits" were not easily discouraged. They returned to the attack the next day (Sunday) in larger numbers and succeeded in putting the depot on a flat car, furnished by the railroad people, and bundled it off to Gasport, where it was duly installed. This was in 1854 or 1855. The new location of this portable station was so near to that of Maybee's that the latter was soon abandoned.

SOME OF THE OLDER RESIDENTS NEAR GASPORT.

John P. Sawyer is probably the oldest resident now living born in the town. He first saw the light in 1821, on the farm near where he now resides, in Gasport, on a beautiful elevation overlooking a fertile plain to the north. His father, Jason Sawyer, came hither from the Green Mountains, in 1816. John P. Sawyer was the first President of the Niagara County Farmers' Club.

Dr. Franklin L. Knapp, born in Genesee County, New York, in 1817, is one of the oldest citizens of the town, and has lived an active and influential life in the community. He is among the most ardent advocates of building good roads by economical methods. The doctor's father was a pioneer Universalist minister. His common schooling was obtained in Monroe County, after which the family moved into Niagara County, where he received his academic education, and in 1844 and 1845 attended the medical college in Geneva. Some time afterward Dr. Knapp received his diploma, and has since practiced in Gasport and the surrounding country up to a year ago, since which time he has devoted most of his leisure to agricultural pursuits.

The growth of horticulture in the County is well shown by the experience of J. W. Shafer, who lives about a mile east of Gasport. In 1860 he bought 16,000 barrels of fruit, which was practically all that was raised in Hartland and Royalton, and a good part of the product of Somerset. Niagara County now often produces more than 1,000,000 barrels a year. In 1870 Mr. Shafer built the cold storage plant at Maybees, making him the pioneer in the cold storage business in this locality.

A number of years later the Dunbar and Pease cold storage plants were built at Gasport, and others at Middleport, which are re-enforced by the new warehouse now being erected by A. P. Harrington, at the latter place.

One of the early settlers in the vicinity of Gasport, who lived to a green old age, was Absalom Mesler, who died on Christmas eve, 1900. He was born in New Jersey, October 3, 1812, and moved into this County in 1825. Mr. Mesler was turnkey under the first deputy sheriff of the County, Eli Bruce, and during Mr. Bruce's term of office the first prisoner was sentenced to State prison, and was conveyed from Lockport to Wright's Corners handcuffed to Mr. Mesler, both riding the same horse and the prisoner securely strapped to the horse, with Mr. Bruce closely following on horseback with revolver loaded and ready for any emergency. From Wright's Corners the prisoner was taken by Mr. Bruce, by stage, to the State prison. Mr. Mesler's grandfather, Bergen Mesler, was a soldier in the Revolu-

tionary War, serving directly under Washington. He afterward was for a time in the ranks during the War of 1812. He died in Hartland, Niagara County, July 18, 1824. Abraham Mesler, father of Absalom, was a native of Holland, and settled first on the Island of Manhattan, and later in New Jersey, where he died.

THE ARMY AND NAVY.

One of the first in the town to enlist for the Civil War was Charles Volney Mesler, who enlisted in April, 1861. He was born October 12, 1836, in Barre, Orleans County, and moved to Niagara County with his parents when one year old. He served for three months, for which he enlisted, and was mustered out at Detroit in August, 1861. He returned to his old home and re-enlisted in Company B, One Hundred and Fifth New York Volunteers, in October of the same year, and was at once appointed orderly sergeant of the company, and was commissioned second lieutenant for meritorious conduct at the second battle of Bull Run. His bravery and daring at Cedar Mountain secured for him a first lieutenant's commission on November 23, 1862, and on January 1, 1865, he was promoted to captain of his company. Taken prisoner in August, 1864, he was for over six months a victim of the terrible outrages practiced by the cruel keepers of Libby, Salisbury and Dansville prisons. Capt. Mesler, although wounded four times, was in nearly all the engagements that were participated in by the Army of the Potomac. He was mustered out of the service, at Albany, on July 28, 1865, having served 1,559 days.

The town can boast of several brave army boys, but only one of its number went to the navy and attained distinction. Franklin Jeremiah Drake was born March 4, 1845, in Yates, Orleans County, New York, and moved with his people to Gasport, New York, in 1857. He graduated from Lockport High School at the age of fourteen, and commenced working for his father, Caleb Drake, on the Canadian Western Railroad. At the opening of the Civil War, Franklin, one of seventy-five aspirants who presented themselves for examination at Rochester University, was appointed to the vacant cadetship in the Naval Academy in February, 1863. In June, 1868, he was ordered into active service, in the West India squadron, where he served on board the United States Steamship "Gettysburg" and the gunboat "Penobscot." In the spring of 1870 he was ordered to the frigate "Colorado," forty-seven guns, then fitting out, in New York, as flagship for the China station. On September 21, 1870, he was promoted to a master in the navy, and was transferred, at Shanghai, to the United States Steamship "Benicia." While serving here he commanded Company B of the landing force in the assault made upon the Corean forts at the mouth of Seoul River. He received special mention for meritorious conduct in action, and was presented with the flag carried by the landing party, as a reward of personal bravery in rescuing it from the Coreans.

After his return to the United States, in 1872, he was promoted to a lieutenantcy in the navy and was sent out to resurvey the Pacific coast from the Columbia River to San Diego, California. There he was engaged till 1879, when he was ordered to the man-of-war "Ticonderoga" for a commercial cruise and survey around the world, which time occupied three and a half years. During 1883-86 he was on duty at the Brooklyn navy yard, in the Bureau of Navigation, and a member of the Advisory Board engaged in building the first steel ships for the navy.

He was the first inspector of steel appointed by the

Government. Later he was appointed Inspector of Ordnance and Torpedo Officer of Navy.

In October, 1893, he was promoted to Lieutenant Commander, and was ordered to the United States Steamship "Albatros," of the Behring Sea fleet. In 1900 he was promoted to Commander and was ordered to the United States Steamship "Monterey," cruising on the Chinese coast.

THE SOUTHERN SECTION OF THE TOWN

Carrington Fisk opened the first tavern in the town, in 1808, at Royalton Center. He and a Mr. Dewey owned practically all the land at that place in the early days. The first postoffice in the town, at Reynales Basin, was subsequently moved to Royalton Center, although another office was established at the former place at a later date. Allen Towne moved to the vicinity of Royalton Center, in 1809. His widow died about two years ago, in her ninety-fifth year.

Wolcottsville is a place with an individuality of its own. It was settled with none of the advantages accruing from proximity to the canal. The site of the place was secured, in 1847, by Anson Wolcott from the Holland Land Company, who took up some 2,000 acres. In 1851 Mr. Wolcott sold his land to four trustees, Frederick and Christian Moll, Frederick Welland and Carl Martins, who laid it out in village lots. In 1872 and 1873 some seventy-five families, from Prussia, settled here and drew their locations by lot. They brought with them many of the characteristic customs of the country whence they came, which has imparted to Wolcottsville an individuality that is unique and which has drawn to it many visitors from the surrounding country, especially on holidays when the people make merry in their own peculiar way.

Two miles west of Royalton Center is the hamlet of McNalls, where John McNall conducted a tavern, in 1818. A postoffice was maintained there a number of years, and also at Dysinger, situated to the south, which is named after the family of that name, of which there are many members in the neighborhood, some of whom are extensive growers of wheat and kindred crops, and have filled offices of public trust most worthily. There is a Baptist Church at Dysinger, though the name is more descriptive of a locality than of a place of business. South Royalton, besides a few houses, contains a frame Methodist Church.

Town of Porter.

BY MISS ADELAIDE L. HARRIS.

THE TOWN OF PORTER, named in honor of Judge Augustus Porter, of Niagara Falls, originally a part of the Town of Cambria, was organized June 1, 1812, and included what is now the Town of Wilson. This latter was set off as a separate town, in 1818.

It is situated in the northwest corner of Niagara County and is bounded as follows: On the north by Lake Ontario, on the east by the Town of Wilson, on the south by the Town of Lewiston, on the west by Niagara River; contains 19,872 acres of land for the assessment of taxes, and is known in legal documents as Township 15, Ranges eight and nine, of the Holland Land Company's survey, so called. It also contains Fort Niagara, which occupies the extreme northwest portion of the township, bordering upon both the lake and river.

The history of the town antedates its civil organization,

and it may be well to note that the events here presented may have reference to time preceding or succeeding such organization.

The town is entirely included in the ancient bed of Lake Ontario, and the soil is a sandy and gravelly loam, changing to a clay loam near the lake shore. It is crossed by the Four and Six-Mile Creeks and the west branch of the Twelve-Mile Creek.

In the beginning of the twentieth century the residents of this section enjoy the benefits of science and invention;



MISS ADELAIDE L. HARRIS.

their homes are comfortable and many of them luxurious. Railroads, trolleys, telephones, telegraphs, schools and churches combine to make life pass easily and pleasantly. The transition has been so gradual that we scarcely realize the difference between twenty-five years ago and now. How is it possible for the present generations to realize the conditions that existed a century ago. "A person in a boat floating down a rapid current, by looking at the water by his side can form no idea as to how fast he is going; and only when he looks at the shore or some stationary object can he realize the velocity of the stream." To be able to judge of our progress the landmarks must be established by the historian; and to be able to appreciate and honor the work done for us by other heroic pioneers who struggled with the forest, the elements and disease as they slowly transformed the wilderness to the garden of the world, as we are pleased to style our County today, we must know something of the story of their lives, their homes and their social relations.

The following description, written by Mrs. Hannah (Durand) Baker, widow of the late Daniel Baker, a pioneer of Porter, is typical of the settlement of a family in the new country:

"About the year 1822 or 1823 my father, who was then living at Canandaigua, decided to join some friends in the 'Far West,' and took out an article with the Holland Land Company. Preparations were made for a journey of 100 miles in wagons, and everything in the way of household necessities, dried fruit, flower and vegetable seeds, that could be taken were included.

"The route along the ridge to Averill's Corner, where we struck the 'North Woods,' was delightful. As the land from that point was swampy we had to abandon the wagons

and repack our goods up on queer looking sleds. A place was hollowed out for the children, while my mother followed on foot, weeping at the prospect of a home amid such surroundings. Great care had to be used to prevent the sleds being overturned in the mud and water as they made their way over stumps and roots of trees and through hollows.

"Near the site of the present Village of Ransomville we received a hearty welcome in the home of my father's sister, Mrs. Newton Phelps.

"A clearing was at once begun upon the claim. A few trees were felled and the home built. It was the regulation log house; the cracks chinked and filled with mud. The shingles were home made and fastened to the rafters by pegs and poles. When the chimney reached the chamber floor a lug pole was placed across for the support of the chain, from which the kettle was hung. Sometimes the roaring fires burned this pole in two, and then away went the dinner. The chimney was made of sticks, laid up cob-house fashion, and plastered with mud. At the doorway a blanket was hung till a door with wooden hinges could be made—only this poor protection between the wolves and the babies—yet I never heard of a house being entered by a wild beast. A greased paper served for glass till that could be procured. The house had no partitions, and in one corner was the bed. Under this was placed the children's trundle bed. A home-made table and chairs completed the furnishings.

"In front of the house stood a large stump which my father transferred into a baking oven in this way: He leveled it off, plastered it thickly with mud mortar, then laid a conical pile of wood upon the mortar. A round stick coated with mud was inserted at the back near the stump. The pile was coated with mud within and without, then fired, making a clay oven. The stick inserted being burned out formed the draft.

"Space was needed for the corn, wheat, flax and orchard, so the grand trees were felled and burned. We cry shame! and waste! but what those pioneers needed was space, not wood.

"The drinking water was obtained from shallow holes near the houses, which, filling with leaves, became breeding places for infusoria and disease. Fever and ague seized the early settlers with a fiendish grasp and shook them till they wanted someone to hold them still; shook them till their teeth chattered and their bones ached. Then followed a burning fever, accompanied by racking pain in the head and back and a terrible melancholy.

"But the people got well, the 'clearings' increased in size, grain glistened in the sun, in the 'slashings' luscious blackberries were ripening. Prosperity turned her smiling face toward the little colony."

Mrs. Baker well remembers when letter postage was twenty-five cents, and the general rejoicing when it was reduced to eighteen cents.

The strictest economy prevailed. Ashes from the elm backlog took the place of saleratus; maple sugar and syrup furnished the sweets, wild berries the first fruit. Soap was made from lye leached from wood ashes and refuse fat and grease. The clothes of the family were made from flax and wool produced on the farm. The farm implements were of the rudest construction. The three-cornered drag was made from the crotched part of a tree, each prong seven or eight inches in diameter, flattened to the proper thickness, with two-inch holes, in which were inserted the wooden teeth, made from hard wood, generally hickory, oak or iron-

wood. The plow was as primitive, but was very soon supplied with an iron share and mould board. The grain was cut with a sickle and the grass with a scythe.

PORTER FROM 1800 TO 1825.

Transitory settlements were made by the French within the limits of the town, but actual settlement and occupation date from about 1800. John Lloyd, a soldier in the garrison, stationed at Fort Niagara, is reported to have had the honor of being the first man to settle. This was in 1801. The records of the Holland Land Company show that the following persons took up land before the war: In 1803, Elijah Doty, John Waterhouse, Silas, Peter and Obadiah Hopkins, Conrad Zittle, who settled at Zittle's Corners, Ephriam Hopkins, John Clemons, Robert Bigger, James Benedict and William McBride, 1804; Ephriam and Samuel Hopkins, John Freeman and John Wilson, 1805; William Coggsell, who taught the first school the following year; Jonathan Jones, Abijah Perry, father of William Perry, the first child born in the settlement, 1806; Jonathan Lutts, Peter Ripson, John Brown and John McBride. In 1808 Isaac Swain removed from the Military Road, in Niagara, and settled on the farm occupied by his son, William Swain, one of the oldest men living, who was born in the town, being eighty-one years old. About this time came Michael and Jacob Lutts, William Arbuthnot and Michael Heims, who first owned the farm that was afterward the property of Peter Tower. Owing to the unsettled condition of affairs along the frontier no further settlements are recorded until after the war.

While the history of the frontier will be given elsewhere a few incidents related by men and women, who heard them direct from their parents, may not be amiss giving, as they do, a glimpse from actual life of the home along the border in time of war.

William Swain, previously mentioned, tells of the escape of his father's family the night of December 18, 1813. "The army marched past so quietly that the family was not disturbed, but they were awakened by the sound of musketry at the fort. My father went to an elevation near the house and saw the flashes of the guns. As the noise soon ceased it was evident that the fort was taken. It did not require a messenger to notify them that their lives were in danger, and packing what food and clothing they could on a moment's notice they proceeded, drawn by a team of oxen, to Warren's Corners, via the Creek road and the ridge."

Mrs. Marcelia Ripson, daughter of John Lloyd, whose home was about three miles from the fort, relates the following:

"At the time of the invasion of New York by the English, in 1813, two different detachments of foragers visited my father's farm. The first time my mother, who was in bed with a young babe beside her, saw the soldiers coming down the road. There was quite a large sum of money in gold and silver in the house, so she directed my sister to drop it in an old bake kettle and cover it with some potato parings that were near at hand. The house was carefully searched, but no money was to be found. One of the men started to search the bed, but the commanding officer told him to stop instantly or he would cut him down. A few weeks later my mother again saw them turning the corner. Stepping to the back door she threw the bag of money as far as she could and again it was saved. This time the horses and cattle were confiscated.

About this time occurred the assault upon the wife and daughter of Michael Lutts, which was the cause of the unre-

lenting hatred of the latter that cost the life of many an English soldier, as he and his brother, Jacob, carried on their work of death, shooting any stray soldier, or soldiers, with as little compunction as they would have shot a wolf. Mrs. Ripson remembers hearing her parents tell how her mother, Mrs. Lutts, and Mrs. Abijah Perry were sent with their families and what provisions had escaped the raiders to a vacant house on the ridge, somewhere east of Averills, where they staid till it was considered safe to return. Rufus Pratt, of Ransomville, has in his possession a shotgun and some silver spoons which were the property of Michael Lutts, who was his grandfather.

After the war came the following: 1814, Joseph McCollum and Rudolph Clapsaddle, and John Vrooman, who was captured by the Indians in Schoharie County during the Revolution. Later he was rescued and taken to Montreal. In 1815 Peter and Otis Tower and John McLaughlin. Peter Tower was the first carpenter and cabinet maker in the town. After a few years he settled on the Tower farm, and in connection therewith kept a small store for many years, and did much for the town. In his home William Morgan was concealed, and when the house was searched he remained safe under a pile of rags. Some silver spoons belonging to Morgan are in the family yet.

In 1816 came William and John Clapsaddle. The year following John built a sawmill and a gristmill at what is known as Tryonville. These were the first mills in the town. Before 1807 the milling was done in Rochester, or across the lake. In 1807 a mill was established at Schlosser, and in 1811 one on the Eighteen-Mile Creek. The grain was carried on horseback, and when it was impossible to go to mill the grain was cooked, either whole or pounded, and eaten with milk or maple syrup.

In 1817 the first clearing was made, in what is now Ransomville, by Gideon Curtiss. He kept a log tavern for a few years and then abandoned it. His brother, Capt. Gilbert Curtiss, soon after settled near him, and as soon as his circumstances would warrant returned to Connecticut afoot to wed the girl to whom he had plighted his troth before starting out to the far West to seek his fortune. It is said that the first apple trees in this part of the town grew from seeds brought by them from their Eastern home. John Robertson and Richard Smithson came about this time. Jacob Moote settled at an early day at what is known as East Porter; also the Simmons and Richard Cuddaback. Stephen Eaton, father of the late Judson Eaton, in 1820; also Thomas Brighton, who still resides in the village of Youngstown.

In 1823 Jonathan Moss, who settled at Moss' Corners, and Harvey Baker, father of Daniel, David, Dillman, Warren and Stephen Baker, who all settled in Porter.

Mrs. Van Syckles, a daughter of Jeremiah Dyer, whose father settled on what was afterward known as the Shaw farm, says that three events which have been graphically described by Fanny Fern transpired at Moss' Corners: "The Death of Little Johnny Runnells;" "The Young Naturalist who Tried to Teach her to Swim," and "How Little Joe Ironed the Bear."

Little Johnny became lost in the woods. The neighbors far and near, and Indians from the Tuscarora Reservation, joined in the search. Signals were agreed upon, guns were fired and torches used. Once a place was found where the child had gathered leaves and made a bed. Again they found the marks of his little teeth in the bark of a tree.

After three days his body was found beside a log with his jacket wrapped around his bare feet. It was thought the noise, and perhaps the Indians, frightened him, causing him to conceal himself, as they found that several times they had been very near him.

The second lad showed his fondness for the water by running away to sea. He was finally drowned in a shipwreck.

Little Joe was sent to Aunt Elsie's (Mrs. Jonathan Moss') to borrow the flatirons, and on his way home saw a bear over the fence. He crept up cautiously to try to iron bruin's shaggy coat, but was doomed to disappointment, as Mr. Bear trotted off in the woods. Joe afterward became an editor in one of our large cities.

In addition to land owners are to be mentioned John Young, who kept the first store in Youngstown, in 1808, and from whom the village derived its name; Edward Giddings, who served in the war, and was at the close appointed lighthouse keeper. Burton & Son kept the first tannery, a prime necessity in a new country. This was built before the war. The first tavern was kept by Robert Grunsett at an early day, and after his death by his widow. The village was burned in 1813, but was rebuilt soon after and the business conducted by about the same persons. At a very early date mail was carried on horseback between Fort Niagara and Canandaigua. Later stage coaches were put on between Canandaigua and Lewiston and Niagara Falls, a connecting line running between Lewiston and Youngstown. During this period a mail carrier on horseback carried mail between Fort Niagara and Rochester. After the establishment of the postoffice in Ransomville it came through that village. The first postmaster in Youngstown was Judge Hinman, who was appointed about 1820.

In 1818 Dr. Hyde, the first physician, settled in Youngstown. He was the Good Samaritan of the surrounding country, riding day and night, many times when there were scarcely well ones enough to care for the sick.

The price paid by the settlers for their land was from \$1.25 to \$2.50 per acre, one-tenth down and the remainder on easy payments. It was no uncommon thing for men to walk to Batavia to make their payments, sometimes taking their last horse or team of oxen for that purpose.

The rough life of the frontier characterizes this period. A description of the village, in 1823, says that there were three taverns out of the dozen buildings in the town. Whiskey was so cheap that everyone could have it, and almost everyone did have it. There were no churches and school was poorly sustained. The only religious services were those held by itinerants. In the year 1823 a Presbyterian society was formed, and after the building of the school house in that year services were held there for several years. In 1821 a Methodist class was formed, at East Porter, largely through the efforts of Jacob Moote and George Ash.

The first record of a town meeting that can be found is given as April 11, 1815. At this meeting Dexter Sprague was elected Supervisor, and Elijah Hathaway, Town Clerk; Nathaniel McCormick, Joseph Pease and Thaddeus Sturges, Assessors; Conrad Zittle and Zebulon Coates, Overseers of the Poor; Benjamin Kemp, John Martin and John Brown, Commissioners of Highways; David Porter and Thaddeus McIntyre, Constables; David Porter, Collector; Conrad Zittle and David Porter, Pound Keepers.

No other complete record can be found until 1819, the year following the setting off of Wilson. This meeting was

held at the house of Peter Tower. The following officers were elected: Michael Helms, Supervisor; Thomas Brown, Town Clerk; Jonathan Bell, George Ash and William Doty, Assessors; John Dunlap, Collector; Conrad Zittle and Daniel Kelly, Overseers of the Poor; Conrad Zittle, Daniel Kelly and Richard Cuddaback, Commissioners of Highways; Moses Barto, A. G. Hinman, John Hyde, Commissioners of Schools; Jonathan Bell and Isaac Swain, Inspectors of Schools; John Dunlap, Constable; Daniel Kelly, Poundmaster.

PORTER FROM 1825 TO 1850.

Some of the settlers who arrived, about the beginning of this period, are: Jason Davis and son, Bradley, who started a general merchandise as J. Davis & Son. Upon the death of the father it was continued by Bradley Davis. About 1870 N. D. Haskell, who married Mr. Davis' daughter, was taken into the firm, and the name was changed to B. D. Davis & Co. The firm discontinued business upon the death of Mr. Davis.

The firm of Emerson & Beals was in existence nearly half a century. About 1895 it became Beals & Eaton. W. H. Doyle, another prominent man in the place, settled in 1835. Others were John Carter, John Hutchinson, Erastus Downer, Lyman Whittaker, Charles Wille, William McCormick. In the east end of the town were Charles Quade, who kept the first store, and for a short time afterwards a hotel, in Ransomville, which was then called Quade's Corners. Mrs. Quade was the daughter of the lighthouse keeper in Niagara when Gen. McClure crossed over and burned the town. The lighthouse, with two or three others, were the only buildings spared.

The following entries in the account book of Mr. Quade, in 1829, taken from five different men's accounts, give an idea of the kind of business done. W. stands for whiskey, Br. for brandy:

W. 3-6, 2 prs mitts 4-31 $\frac{3}{4}$ yds factory 30-8..... \$4.76
 1 pr. shoes 3-6 2 qt W. 1-6 1 fur hat 28-..... 4.13
 2 qt W. 1-6 1 pr. suspenders 3-6, W. -6 12s. paper 1-... 81
 W. 1-6, 1 churn 3-6, 1 cream pot $\frac{1}{4}$ 1 basin 1- W 1-6.. 1.10
 W. -10, W. -10, candy -6 W. $\frac{1}{4}$ W and Br. $\frac{1}{2}$, W $\frac{1}{4}$, 1
 hat 6-..... 1.48

(The author is much indebted to a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Quade, Miss Ann Quade, for much valuable information in the preparation of this article.)

Dr. Catlin, the first doctor in Ransomville; Clark Ransom, after whom the village was named, and who succeeded Mr. Quade in the store business, was also the first postmaster. William Kyte, father of Francis Kyte, who has lived in the town since 1829. W. H. H. Ransom, in 1839, who succeeded his uncle, Clark Ransom, in the store in 1842. E. T. Ransom was taken into the business about 1875, under the firm name of W. H. H. Ransom & Son. Business is done yet under the same name, although the father died a number of years ago. They have carried on the most extensive business in the town.

The following may explain the secret of the success of the two firms, Davis & Son in the west end, and Ransom & Son in the east end of the town: W. H. H. Ransom was a carpenter, and before embarking in the mercantile business worked at his trade. He built the Davis dock, and Monday morning with his tools on his back he walked to Youngstown, and it is said that the only man he found up in the town was Jason Davis.

The staple product during this epoch was wheat. This period also marks the planting of the greater part of the ap-

ple orchards. A great stimulus was given this industry by the growing demand of the markets of the Middle West States. The smaller fruits were raised merely for family use. The first cook stove in Ransomville was purchased in 1832 by Charles Quade for twenty-five dollars. It had one large griddle on top for a large kettle, but the cooking was mainly done on top. It had an oven and was the wonder of the village.

Joseph Fowler, Sr., built a water sawmill in Ransomville, on the farm owned now by Mrs. Agnes Ransom, about the year 1825. The west branch of the Twelve-Mile Creek was turned slightly out of its course to provide the power. With the clearing of the land the water failed, and in the forties it was replaced by a steam mill, on the site of the present basket factory. This sawmill was operated until about 1875. With the failing of the supply of water the mills at Tryonville were abandoned after being used but a few years, and the town was without a gristmill until 1840, when the stone mill was built in Youngstown. There were also sawmills for a short time on the Creek road and at Kyles Corners.

On the Harris farm, just across the line in Wilson from Mr. Fowler's, were some salt licks (not a particle of vegetation grows on them to this day), which were much frequented by deer. Like unruly cattle, they were wont to break over into the adjoining corn field, doing considerable damage. Mr. Fowler determined to stop this practice. So he drove down some stakes, shaved off a sharp point, just inside the fence where they were in the habit of jumping over. This was against the law, but it seemed to be the only way to protect his crop. One morning on going to his traps he found three deer impaled on the stakes.

In 1840 the Ransomville House was built by Capt. Curtiss, which continued to be a public house for many years. The same year Alexander Barton engaged in the hotel business in Youngstown, and continued in it till his death. The stone hotel was built in 1842 by Alexander Lane.

The Presbyterian Church, of Youngstown, was the first in the town. This was completed in 1837, enlarged in 1840, and rebuilt in 1890. The first pastor was Rev. Mr. Everett. St. Bernard's Parish, Roman Catholic, was established in 1830. A chapel was instituted and supplied by priests from Lewiston and Suspension Bridge. They occupy a neat frame building at the present time. The Baptist Church, of Ransomville, was organized in 1834, and the building erected in 1837, Rev. Samuel Olney being the first pastor. The church was remodeled in 1870; parlors were added in 1900, and in the present year, 1902, a baptistry. A Methodist Episcopal class was formed at Zittle's Corners, in 1838, under the leadership of Rev. William Buck, with services held in the schoolhouse.

By 1830 School Districts two, at Tower's Corners; three, on the Creek road; four, at Zittle's Corners; five, at East Porter; six, at Ransomville; seven, at Moss' Corners, and eight, in the Brown district, were organized, and schoolhouses built in most of them. By 1850, nine on the Lake road, the Clark district; ten, at Kyle's Corners; eleven, in the north part of the town, and a district No. 12, between Zittle's and Tower's Corners, which was annulled before 1860. The Lutts district was formed soon after the dissolution of this district, and became No. 12. District eleven was dissolved in 1890 and the territory annexed to adjoining districts. No. 12 was then changed to No. 11, its present number.

PORTER FROM 1850 TO 1875.

At the beginning of this period three-fourths of the land

in the town was cleared and fenced. Most of the log houses had been replaced by frame ones. The corduroy roads had given place to better worked earth ones. A plank road was in use between Ransomville and Averills, with a tollgate at the east edge of the township. This old tollgate house is in use as a dwelling near the site occupied by it at that time.

A stage route was established from Youngstown to Lockport, which carried the mail daily.

The first mowers were introduced about 1855, but did not begin to come into general use until 1863. Horserakes preceded the mowers; the three successive stages being the revolving rake, the rake dumped by hand power and the self-dumping. Reapers followed soon after the mowers. Like the rake, they have gone through three stages. On the first ones a man pushed the grain off the platform. This was followed by revolving rakes, and about 1880 by self-binders.

In 1852 the Niagara Falls and Lake Ontario Railroad Company was formed, to build a road from Niagara Falls to Youngstown. The road was opened as far as Lewiston in 1854. By the terms of the charter the stockholders became holden for the payment of the stock when the road was completed so that trains could run the length of it. October 21, 1855, a train ran to Youngstown. Soon after work was suspended and the track torn up. Eventually the road was sold for taxes and the land reverted to the original owners.

In 1852 the Niagara County Protective Association was organized at Curtiss' hotel. Clark Ransom, John Powley and Judge Sage, of Pekin, being the charter members. It was the outgrowth of the loss of a valuable span of horses by Clark Ransom. It has been the means of driving out the business of horse thieving, which had become quite a serious matter in the County. It now has about 500 members. This was the first society of the kind in the State.

John Carter built the first brick yard in the town about 1850. About 1860 a brick yard was started on the farm now owned by William Ward, just north of Ransomville. Mr. West conducted the work. In 1867 W. H. H. Ransom opened one on his farm and manufactured several million brick. He took the contract of furnishing a large quantity to the Government, which were used at the fort in facing up the "bomb-proof" walls of the fortifications.

Youngstown was incorporated in 1854, upon a petition presented to the Legislature by Ira Race and others. George Swain was the first village president.

The following churches were built—In 1851, the Porter Center Methodist Episcopal, William Barrett, pastor; the Methodist Episcopal Church, at East Porter, in 1852; the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Youngstown, in 1854, John Bowman, pastor; the Wesleyan Methodist Church, in Ransomville, about 1850.

Youngstown during this time was a good market for wheat and small fruits, the former going to Oswego, where it was shipped; the latter to Canadian markets. The principal shippers were Emerson & Beals, W. H. Doyle and James Marshall. Lewiston and Lockport were the other markets for produce.

It is to be feared that the law was not always complied with regarding the payment of revenue, and it is claimed that great quantities of goods, especially whiskey and woolen cloth, were landed along the lake shore in the vicinity of the Four and Six-Mile Creeks, and carried overland to towns along the Erie Canal and reshipped to other markets. Smuggling was carried on most extensively during the Civil War.

The part taken by Porter in the great Civil War is one of which her citizens may well be proud. Many of the brave boys who responded to their country's call fell on the battle field or languished in Southern prisons. Mourning and grief were in many homes. Let us honor their memory. While the men who remained at home raised money to pay for more soldiers, the women were patriotically raising money and supplies for the Sanitary Commission or sending necessities to friends direct. A large amount of money was raised and much good accomplished.

The following is the list of those whose names can be learned, and the branch of service they were in from Porter:

First New York Artillery—S. Brazington, William Krapp, Fred Porter, Thomas N. Quade, Hiram Ribble, Christopher Robinson.

Eighth Heavy Artillery—Truman Ash, Joseph Brown, Harvey Baker, Stephen Baker, George Barker, Sumner Barker, Harry Benson, Joseph Clapsaddle, Porter Clapsaddle, Oscar Clapsaddle, Jeremiah Crane, John Dixon, Jerry Dixon, Ashley Hawkins, Lewis Hosmer, Isaac Lloyd, Madison McCollum, Melville McCollum, Nathan Myers, Edward Perry, Charles Quade, Donald Robinson, Peter S. Tower.

Second Mounted Rifles—Charles Daniels, George Dawson, N. T. Davis, David Myers, John Scoonmaker, H. O. Spencer, Edward Taylor.

Fourteenth Artillery—George O. Powley, Nathan Smith, George Whittaker.

Twenty-third Battery—Charles Atwater, George Brooks, Burr Beebe, Perley Brown, Lewis Daniels, Luther Knapp, William Lutts, John McCollum, Augustus Nervis, George Owen, Samuel Owen, Amos Parker, Palmer Pierce, Benjamin Palmer, William Powley, John Reynolds, John Rieck, Eugene Slocum, William Sage, Jesse Stoughton, Thomas Tryon, Frank Taylor.

Nineteenth Independent Battery—I. Barnes, Ransom Bigelow, John W. Carter, John De Clute, John W. Haskell, Seth Jillson, John Kelly, John Lloyd, Joseph L. Morris, Joseph W. Morris, Edwin Northrop, Richard Perry, Thomas Turner, Sydney O. Weston.

Twenty-eighth Infantry—Dexter Carpenter, Ingraham Eaton, H. H. Helms, John Henning, Henry Logan, John Moyses, Matthew Moyses, William Merville, Adam Merville, Wesley Ray, Dennis Sullivan, James Taylor.

Forty-ninth Infantry—Michael Hutchinson, Rufus Waite, Elias Perry, Egbert Perry.

One Hundred and Fifth Infantry—John Adams, James Barber, Bartholomew Benson, Robert Clapsaddle, George Giddings, Jehial Moore, Van Renesselaer Perry, George Post.

One Hundred and Fifty-first Infantry—Adney Beals, Porter Bingham, Edward Brown, John Duffy, Jr., Henry Johnson, Hazard Kinney, Daniel Kelly, Edward Morris, Jarvis White.

One Hundred and Seventy-ninth Infantry—John Riley.

One Hundred and Eighty-seventh Infantry—James Dempsey, James Morrow..

Regiment or arm of service unknown—Herbert Cleveland, Warren Curtiss, Edward Cowan, William Cowan, Montreville Moss, William Roberts, Marsh Schoonmaker, — Skinner.

PORTER FROM 1875 TO 1902.

At the beginning of this quarter of the century the fruit industry received a new impetus. As the second quarter marked the development of the apple orchards, so this quarter witnessed the planting of peaches, pears, plums and other

small fruits in large quantities, until today, at a conservative estimate, there are 4,000 acres devoted to fruit. The yellows, a peach tree disease, has caused the loss of hundreds of acres of trees. This fruit is now almost exclusively raised in the vicinity of the lake and river, where the soil and climate seem especially adapted to it. For the past ten years, to secure the best results, it has been found necessary to spray all trees with fungicides, and in the case of apple trees also, insecticides, the latter to destroy the tent caterpillar, the canker worm, the codling moth and the green plant aphid. The year 1900 heralded a new pest, the San Jose scale, which threatens to be a serious problem. Among the large fruit growers are Albert Dulton, Peter and George and Luke Tower, Henry Lutts, who has sold as many as 25,000 baskets of peaches in a single year; William Wilkeson, John Hall, Tellice Johnson, who in 1896 marketed 7,000 barrels of apples; Bert Cothran, William Smithson, Edwin and Fred Carter, Elmer Brookins, Thomas Wilson, Edward Calvert and Almeron Barker. The year just mentioned is noted for its immense apple crop. To give an idea of it, at Ransomville a train load a day was shipped for a month during the busy season.

In the year 1876 the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg Railroad ran its first train over the entire western division June 12. This, indeed, was a good way for the residents of Porter to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Independence of the United States. W. H. H. Ransom & Son and Curtiss Brothers became general produce buyers, each having built commodious warehouses on side tracks of the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg, and Ransomville became, and is today, as good a grain and fruit market as there is in the County. In 1900 Upton & Co. succeeded Curtiss Brothers. In 1896 the Old Fourte Route, a trolley line extending from Lewiston to Youngstown, was built, and it furnishes excellent passenger and freight service to the people of the west part of the town, and is a very paying corporation. In 1890 a Bell telephone line was put in connecting Ransomville with Lockport and Niagara Falls, and a line connecting Youngstown with Niagara Falls was put in some years earlier. Evaporators for drying apples were perfected in Youngstown and Ransomville about 1880, and furnish employment for many people during the fall. The Ransomville Basket Company was organized in 1896, and occupies the sawmill formerly used by Joseph L. Fowler. This company gives employment to about forty hands during eight months of the year.

Two postmasters, who each served over twenty years, deserve mention—G. I. Eaman, in Ransomville, and Miss Amanda Harris, in Youngstown.

East Porter—Mr. Hana, pastor Methodist Episcopal Church; Homer Simmons, feed and cider mill.

The Youngstown News, a weekly paper, was founded in 1881 by Nelson D. Haskell, who was succeeded by G. Oliver Frick in 1889. Mr. Frick is the present proprietor.

In 1878 St. John's Episcopal Church was built in Youngstown. The parish was formed in 1868 and services during part of the time were held in the brick church. The first rector was Rev. G. M. Skinner. The Free Methodist Church in Ransomville was built in 1877, William Jackson, pastor.

Youngstown District one has had three schoolhouses. The first was built of logs in 1823. This was succeeded by a two-room brick building about 1840, and in 1892 by the present four-room brick building, erected at a cost of \$8,000. In 1900 this district was changed from a common school to

a Union Free school. The members of the Board of Education are E. J. Serviss, F. C. Carter and Angus Turner, and the teachers Mary A. Walsh, principal; Clara E. Beardsley, Ada Van Keuren and Jessie Swain.

Ransomville District one has had four school buildings, a log house, built about 1825; a frame one, 1837; a two-room frame building in 1856, and the present two-story frame building, built in 1900, at a cost of \$3,000. The trustee is W. D. Wisner, and the teachers are Mrs. Mary A. Honahan, principal; and Mary A. Hoffman, assistant. The other districts have had two buildings each. The trustees for the present years are as follows: two, T. C. Morris; three, John Wilson; four, La Boam Smithson; five, Jacob Diez; seven, Albert Hoffman; eight, Frank Canfield; nine, Stanley Perry; ten, Herman Miller; eleven, Elwin Carter.

The present professional and business men are as follows:

Youngstown—S. Park Baker, attorney; William J. Faulkner, doctor. Pastors—Presbyterian, Rev. Rohrbach; Methodist, Youngstown and Porter Center, Rev. Sconbacher; Episcopal, Rev. Herendene; Catholic, Rev. Dolan; Beals & Eaton, W. A. Hutchinson, W. A. Robinson, John Thompson, general merchants; Charles Taylor, druggist; William King, bakery and confectionery; Martin Premus, meat market; T. E. Ellis, M. Wellman, barbers; Herbert Eaton, postmaster; Julius Ripson, foundry and hardware; A. J. Serviss & Son, John Calvert & Son, contractors; Joseph Badgley, wagon shop; James Kinghorn, blacksmith; Angus Turner, mason; D. & J. Onen, ferrymen. Hotel proprietors—El Dorado (built in 1890), Frank C. Steele; Ontario House, Timothy Murphy; Barton House, W. J. Comerford; Columbia hotel, Arthur Mackey; William Bogart, cigars and confectionery.

In Ransomville—C. R. Clarke, H. S. Bright, physicians; Pastor Baptist Church, Rev. J. W. Johnson; Free Methodist Church, Rev. J. J. Thompson; Wesleyan Methodist Church, Rev. Readette. W. H. H. Ransom & Son, G. E. Hubble, general merchants; A. J. Barry, druggist; W. T. Gentle, hardware and postmaster; F. D. McCormick, grocery and feed mill; Charles Morris, harnessmaker; W. W. Helms, carriage manufacturer; George Monahan, blacksmith; William Connors, Charles Ward, meat market; Rufus Warren, Elton Tryon, barbers; David Bagley, cider mill; Henry Swigert, dry goods; Ransom & Son, E. M. Upton & Co., G. H. Foote, manager, grain buyers; John Curtiss, coal merchant; J. & R. Curtiss, proprietors of the Niagara Poultry Farm (with an annual output of 10,000 fowls); S. H. Morris, lumber; Carlos Brookins, Samuel Frederick, contractors. Hotels—Union, Myron Perry; Hotel Porter, William Gallup.

Porter Center—Christopher Clapsaddle, General merchandise.

Soldiers who served in the Spanish-American War—Dwight and Budd Clapsaddle, sons of C. C. Clapsaddle; Lee Robertson, son of John Robertson; William Myers, son of Henry Myers.

The present town officers are: John Thompson, Supervisor; G. E. Hubble, Town Clerk; William Burmaster, Collector; Warren Curtiss, William Prendegast, W. A. Robinson, G. O. Frick, Justices of the Peace; Jefferson Warren, George Roberts, Timothy O'Gorman, Mark Schoonmaker, Constables; Francis Kyte, William Hill, James Foster, Assessors.


The following is a complete list of the Supervisors of the town since 1819: Michael Helms, 1819-24; Moses Barsto,

1825-27; William Doty, 1828-29; no election 1830; Leverett Bristol, 1831-34; Timothy Hosmer, 1835; Leverett Bristol, 1836-41; John Porter, 1842; Ziba Henry, 1843; Clark Ransom, 1844; Solomon Moss, 1845-47; John Porter, 1848; Solomon Moss, 1849; Ira Race, 1850-53; Peter Simmons, 1854; Ira Race, 1855; George Swain, 1856-59; Joseph L. Fowler, 1860-62; Ezra Holden, 1863-64; Ira Race, 1865-66; Rensselaer Ward, 1867-70; E. T. Ransom, 1871-73; James Foster, 1874; E. T. Ransom, 1875-77; R. D. Balmer, 1878; P. S. Tower, 1879; R. Ward, 1880; Joseph Thompson, 1881-82; A. W. Gatchell, 1883-84; Joseph Thompson, 1885; George Swain, 1886; N. D. Haskell, 1887; A. J. Eaton, 1888; John Rierdon, 1891-93; Elmer Brookins, 1894-96; E. S. Carter, 1897-98; H. S. Ransom, 1899-1900; J. W. Thompson, 1900.

The following have represented the Second Assembly District at Albany: N. D. Haskell, 1889; L. P. Gillette, 1893; E. T. Ransom, 1894-95.

The following have filled County offices: George Swain, Sheriff, 1860-63; George L. Moote, County Clerk, 1874-77; Richard Balmer, School Commissioner, 1879-82; Adelaide L. Harris (now of Wilson), School Commissioner, 1897.

Town of Lewiston.



EWISTON is the most fertile field in the County for the historian. The story of the earliest settlers, as well as the part of Niagara County in the French and Indian war, the Revolution and the War of 1812, have been told by Mr. Porter in his History of Niagara County, published in this volume, and also in a pleasant, discursive way by Rev. Joshua Cooke in his reminiscences of Lewiston. Many of the facts told by these gentlemen, though they relate to Lewiston, belong in the large sense to the whole County. The object of this sketch, with the corresponding sketches of the other towns of the County, is to recount the matters of greater detail, the beginnings and progress of government in the town, and to recall the names of some of the families that should be mentioned in a work of this description.

BEGINNINGS OF TOWN GOVERNMENT.

The Town of Lewiston was erected from Cambria on February 27, 1818. The western part, bordering the Niagara River, is by far the most interesting in historical matter. It was settled earlier, and has been the scene of strife many a time and oft, from the time of Joncaire till the tumult of the conflict that raged so fiercely thereabouts during the second war with England was finally stilled.

The first town meeting was held at the home of John Gould on April 7, 1818. Rufus Spalding and Gideon Frisbee, Justices of the Peace, presided. The following officers were elected: Supervisor, Rufus Spalding; Town Clerk, Oliver Grace; Assessors, Benjamin Barton, Amos M. Kidder and William Miller; Highway Commissioners, John Beach, Aaron Childs and Reuben Reynolds; Overseers of the Poor, Jacob Townsend and Arthur Gray; School Commissioners, Joshua Fairbanks, William Miller and Rufus Spalding; Inspector of Schools, Amos M. Kidder, Reuben Reynolds and William Hotchkiss; Constable and Collector, Eleazer Daggett; Sealer of Weights and Measures, Amos S. Tryon. Eleven Overseers of Highways were also chosen, one for each of the districts into which the town was divided.

The following Supervisors have served since the organization of the town: 1818, Rufus Spalding, 1819-27, Ben-

jamin Barton; (Nathaniel Leonard filled out an unexpired term of Mr. Barton's in 1823); 1828-30, Jacob Townsend; 1831, Sheldon C. Townsend; 1832, Lothrop Cooke; 1833-41, Alexander Dickerson; 1842-45, Sherburne B. Piper; 1846, Benjamin Hewitt; 1847-48, Seymour Scovell; 1849, Benjamin Hewitt; 1850, Arthur Gray, Jr.; 1851, Leander K. Scovell; 1852-53, Andrew Robinson; 1854, John L. Whitman; 1855, John Robinson; 1856, Reuben H. Boughton; 1857, Franklin Spalding; 1858, Benjamin Hewitt; 1859-60, Franklin Spalding; 1861-62, Isaac C. Cook; 1863-66, Moses Bairsto; 1867, Silas S. Hopkins; 1868, Moses Bairsto; 1869-74, Sherburne B. Piper; 1875-77, William J. Moss; 1878-80, William B. Mentz; 1881-85, Galen Miller; 1886-90, William J. Cooke; 1891, Galen Miller; 1892-98, Wilber T. Pool; 1899-1902, James W. H. Kelly.

REDEEMING THE LAND.

The early settlements of this town were confined to the Ridge Road and the river road, owing to the remainder of the town being wet, that part lying between the ridge and the mountain having been a natural cranberry marsh, and only about fifty years ago was it reclaimed, by outlets for the water being cut through the Ridge Road. Owing to the gradual descent toward the lake of the land north of the ridge, and the lack of ditches, the roads were not much more than tracks. They were impassable for wheels until the middle of the summer. Seventy years ago or more traders who went through the country from Rochester with supplies for Fort Niagara were accustomed to take back with them sleigh loads of cranberries to help out their profits.

SOME EARLY HOTEL KEEPER.

Lewiston was the terminus of the famous Ridge Road running between that point and Rochester, and a citizen of Lewiston, Samuel Barton, operated the stage line. His father, Maj. Benjamin Barton, was one of the contractors who furnished the boats to carry the American troops across the Niagara River on the occasion of the battle of Queens-ton Heights. The Bartons, in 1824, built the Frontier House at Lewiston, which was one of the famous hotels of the early days between Albany and the Niagara Frontier. A member of the Ashford family of hotel keepers, father of T. N. Ashford, of the Commercial hotel of Lockport, kept the hotel for a term of years afterward. George Rector, who kept the Lockport House in Lower Town, was also an early landlord of the Frontier House. It is now operated by the Raymond family, descendants of Caleb W. Raymond. It has been conducted by this family for over half a century.

NO INTERFERENCE WANTED.

Caleb W. Raymond came to Lewiston as early as 1807. He was a blacksmith, and blacksmiths were very valuable people in new settlements in those days. A story is told of one of his early experiences that points the moral that it is unwise to interfere in domestic difficulties, no matter how necessary it may seem. He was on the way home from his farm to the hotel one night, when he passed by a cooper shop kept by a Frenchman named Bazoo. Suddenly he heard cries of "Help! help! murder!" proceeding from the kitchen in the rear of the shop. He ran into the kitchen, through the shop and saw Bazoo belaboring his wife with a hooppole. Now, hooppoles are made of hickory and are excellent articles of castigation. They hit the spot. He cried out to the infuriated Bazoo, "What are you beating the woman for; no man's a man who will strike a woman?" The woman seized a mop stick and went in for the hapless

Raymond. Bazoo turned upon him with the hooppole and very soon things came to be exceedingly lively for the peace-maker, who beat a retreat to the road and the woman slammed the door in his face, with the statement that she would teach him to meddle in their family affairs. Raymond, contrary to all precedent, had the last word. He opened the door the width of two fingers and shouted to the man: "Kill her, — her; kill her."

THE CORNELLS.

The American hotel was built before 1845 by Nelson Cornell. It was conducted after his death by his son, Hiram, and is now operated by Harry Cornell, a grandson of the original owner. The American hotel was burned some seven or eight years ago, the fire originating on the steamship *Corona*, lying at the wharf near by, the flames communicating to the hotel. A much finer structure was built, which has since been known as "The Cornell." Nelson Cornell in his day was one of the prominent business men of the place. He ran a general store in the town, as well as the hotel, and for many years supplied the steamboats with wood, which afforded an outlet for the surplus time of the region, that was appreciated by the farmers at the time they were clearing their farms. He kept a number of teams of his own drawing wood the year round, and it was no uncommon sight as well to see a dozen teams of the near by farmers in a string on the road leading to the dock.

RIDGE ROAD TAVERNS.

During the old stage days there were taverns at frequent intervals along the Ridge Road. Sparrow Sage kept a tavern before 1812, some three miles east of Lewiston, on the Ridge; this was the only building in the town on the road that was spared by the Indians at the time of their great raid on the settlers in the War of 1812. The comfort of the tavern that they thought they might need on their return, together with the fact that there was fire-water in abundance, doubtless prompted them to make an exception of Mr. Sage's hostelry. The next tavern to the east was kept by Alexander Dickerson, of Dickersonville. Achish Pool, the pioneer of that family in this County, among others, kept the temperance hotel a half mile east of Dickersonville.

HAVOC OF THE WAR.

The records of the County Clerk's office show that there were many conveyances of land along the river and on the Ridge in 1810, or earlier. After 1812 there were comparatively few deeds given by the Holland Land Company until 1830. The country had been impoverished by the War of 1812, and though a number of settlers went in and occupied the land after the war, few of them paid anything more than small initial sums. As they improved their farms and recovered from the effects of the war they were enabled to make payments sufficiently large to secure a deed from the company.

BOYS SCARE OFF A BRITISH SCHOONER.

The Millar family were represented in Lewiston at an early day. Alexander Millar was a merchant there before 1813. His son, Alexander, was a young man at the time of the war. A few years before the war he had a share in a little exploit that showed the mettle of Young America at the time. The boys of the town, with young Millar as a ringleader, formed themselves into a military company, Millar furnishing the powder from his father's store to fire the salutes at sunrise and sunset. James L. Barton, who was a member of the company, wrote the following little sketch of the boys' efforts for a previous history of the Coun-

ty, published in 1878, that is worth repeating here: "We constructed a regular battery on the bank of the river, with embrasures for cannon; went into the woods and chopped down some maple saplings about five or six inches in diameter, cut them into pieces about two and a half feet long, bored them out with a two-inch auger and put on each end a beetle ring, mounted our blocks and garnished our battery. We had some eight or ten of them. We had been into the forts at the mouth of the river and seen the manner of piling up the cannon balls alongside of each gun. We then made as many as a barrel full of balls of the clay in the bank, dried them in the sun and piled up in proper order, by the side of each cannon, a sufficient number of balls. Here we went through our military evolutions, mounted guard and did garrison duty every leisure day we could get. One afternoon, while we were all present, each with his shotgun on his shoulder, and having much to do that day, we did not get through until dark. About twilight we discovered a British schooner, bound for Queenston, coming up the river under full sail, with her flag flying, and keeping very close to our side to avoid the current. We manned our battery, and when she came opposite the work, peremptorily ordered her to strike her colors and come to. She not obeying our orders we opened our wooden cannon at her. The mud balls striking the water made considerable splashing; she up helm and ran down the river, and losing that wind did not get up for three or four days."

A deputation soon came over from Canada and formally stated that "if the officer having charge of the troops along the river to guard the revenue laws followed up his reckless conduct of firing into unarmed vessels coming up the river on their lawful business, and having no design or intention to violate the laws of the United States, some one would be killed, shots would be returned from the other side and serious consequences follow."

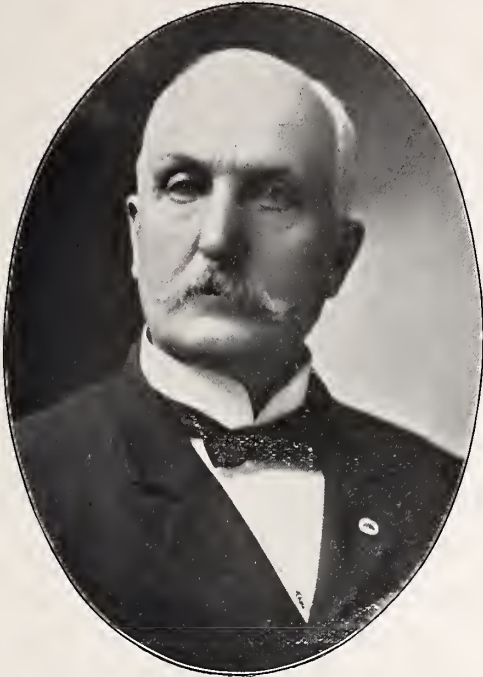
Upon learning that the affair was but the prank of a few boys, the deputation betook themselves to his majesty's domains without further comment and considerably overcome with amazement.

TAKEN PRISONER BY A FRIEND.

This same Alexander Millar was taken prisoner during the War of 1812, when the British and Indians were making one of their raids, the Indians burning and murdering wherever they went unless they were restrained by their British allies. Young Millar was overtaken by the English, fortunately, and was taken prisoner without harm. It happened that the soldier who captured him was an old Canadian acquaintance, who called on him to halt and surrender. Millar had hardly accustomed himself to the idea of his old acquaintance being an enemy, and was by no means in haste to respond to the order. The command "halt" was repeated a second time in no uncertain way, and Millar was taken and afterward carried to Quebec. On his return months afterward, the story goes, he saw the bodies of some of those who had been massacred on the same foray in which he had been taken prisoner, lying by the roadside. Alexander Millar was the father of Judge David Millar, of Lockport.

SOME EARLY SETTLERS.

Isaac Colt, the first of the Colt family in Lewiston, came in 1809, from Sussex, N. J., bringing his wife and six children. He settled at a point about two miles above the village and kept a public house years afterward. The sons secured farms in the vicinity and were always prominent citizens in the town.



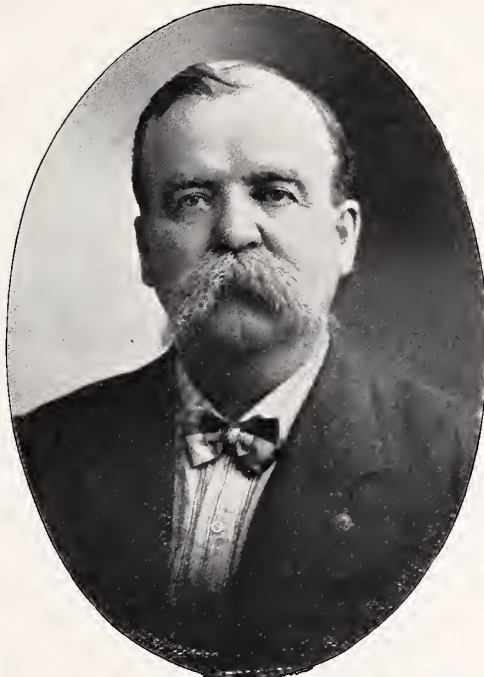
LEE R. SANBORN.



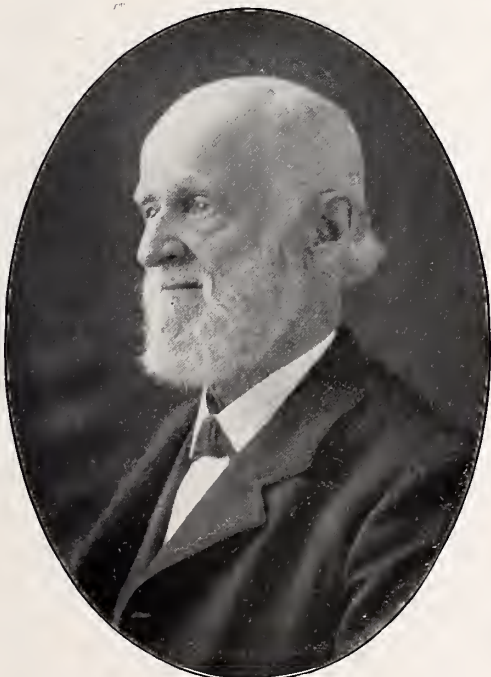
DR. WM. Q. HUGGINS



J. S. TOWNSEND.



L. B. PIKE.



OLIVER P. SCOVFLI.



W. H. CROSIER, CAMBRIA.



PLATT BETTS, HARTLAND.

The month of December, 1813, was a memorable period for the settlers. The British and Indians at that time made their celebrated raid on the settlers of Lewiston and Youngstown under Gen. Riall. Many of the settlers were ruthlessly massacred. The people on the Ridge Road east of Lewiston received a warning from a citizen, who dashed through the country on horseback awakening the inhabitants after the manner of Paul Revere. Practically the entire population who escaped with their lives left the town and remained at a distance until the close of the war.

Many of the settlers returned in 1815. Isaac Colt, who had been wounded, brought back his family. Aaron Childs, John Robinson, Achish Pool, Silas Hopkins, Joseph Hewitt, John Gray, John Latta and their families, and others who had previously settled there, returned before the close of 1816. Among the new comers at that time were Richard Ayer, on the Ridge Road; Jairus Rose, the Carney family; the Defoe and the Springsteen families, settled at or near Pekin; the Bliss, Earl, Bridge, Balmer, Wilson, Orton and other families located between the ridge and the mountain soon after the war. Between 1815 and 1825 settlement advanced rapidly. G. P. Nichols settled in 1819, Andrew A. Farley in 1823 and Thomas Balmer in 1825. Later comers were Abel White, in 1826; the Pletcher families, in 1829; Peter Spickerman, in 1835; Joseph Shippy, Sanford White and John Cleghorn, in 1836; James Buckley, in 1838; Erastus Downer, in 1841; Charles McConnell and Reuben M. Doty, in 1842; and Hartwell Hayward, in 1845; his son, George C. Hayward, is now living in Lockport.

Some of the prominent citizens of the town during the first third of the century were the following: Cyrus Peet, John Calkins, John Cowen, Isaac and Charles Wolson, Abram Bale, Mathias Kline, John Saunders; Ozias Judd, father of Orange Judd, publisher of the American Agriculturist, and Benjamin Ways.

\$30,000 A FORTUNE IN THE EARLY DAYS.

Jonas Harrison was the first lawyer in the town, coming before the War of 1812. Judge William Hotchkiss came in 1810. The life and services of Bates Cooke are referred to elsewhere. His last partner was Judge Horatio J. Stow, who afterward went to Buffalo and became very prominent in his profession in that city. He was at one time Recorder there. He always said that when he became "indecently rich" he would return to the banks of the Niagara River or the shore of Seneca Lake and enjoy his remaining days. Being asked how he would fix the limit, he said that \$30,000 was about his figure. He returned to Lewiston and built a beautiful residence in time to die in it of disease of the heart. At the time Judge Stow was practicing law in Lewiston Rev. Joshua Cooke, the venerable chronicler of "Reminiscences of Lewiston," published in this volume, was a boy in the office copying papers. He preached Judge Stow's funeral sermon in 1859. The fine home, which was named "Ellangowan," by a subsequent owner, a Canadian lady, has since come into the possession of Judge Lewis, of Buffalo, who occupies it as a summer residence. Judge Noah Davis and John C. Saxe, the Poet, were law students at Lewiston at one time.

THE BRIDGE AND RAILROAD.

The Lewiston and Junction Horse Railroad was surveyed in 1835 and finished in 1837, to connect with the Lockport and Niagara Falls Railroad. The Lewiston Railroad Company that operated it was incorporated by Bates Cooke, Jacob Townsend, Oliver Grace, Leonard Shepard, Joshua

Fairbanks, Calvin Hotchkiss, Amos S. Tryon, Seymour Scovell, Benjamin Barton and Lothrop Cooke. In 1851 the charter was sold to the Buffalo and Niagara Falls Railroad Company.

The original Lewiston suspension bridge was built in 1851 at a cost of \$56,000. In 1864 the bridge was blown down in a severe gale. The ruins of the bridge remained for many years, but finally the structure was replaced by a larger one, built of much of the old material composing the former suspension bridge at the Falls.

SANBORN.

The Village of Sanborn, in the southeastern corner of the County, was named for Rev. E. C. Sanborn, who located there as late as 1846. The first settler, however, was Seth Lyon, who took up land in 1826. In 1864 Lee R. Sanborn, son of Rev. E. C. Sanborn, associated himself with Rev. Griffin Smith, and purchased a tract of land on the site of the Village of Sanborn. The purchase included ninety acres, lying on both sides of the railroad. In the following year the tract was divided, Mr. Sanborn taking thirty-five acres, Mr. Smith ten and the remaining property was deeded to Ryan Smith, a brother of Rev. Griffin Smith. Mr. Sanborn laid out his property in village lots and placed them on sale. Lee R. Sanborn built a sawmill here, in 1854, which was burned in 1861 and immediately rebuilt. Mr. Sanborn was Member of Assembly in 1870 and 1871.

Dr. W. Q. Huggins settled in Sanborn in 1870 and began the practice of his profession. He is yet a resident of Sanborn and enjoys a practice that extends throughout a large part of the western section of the County. The doctor is a prominent thirty-second degree Mason, a Shriner and Past Commander of Genesee Commandery, No. 10, stationed at Lockport. He is also a member of the Grand Commandery of the State of New York. He served in the Army of the Cumberland from 1861 to 1865.

The first postmaster at Sanborn was John Starr. Lee R. Sanborn held that office for a long term of years, from 1861 to 1877. The present postmaster is L. B. Pike, who has conducted a general store there for a number of years, under the style of L. B. Pike & Son, and is one of the leading citizens of Sanborn.

PETER CUSICK'S RELIC.

Mr. Cooke tells in his "Reminiscences" a story of Solomon Cusick, a Tuscarora Indian, who was sought out by La Fayette on his visit to America, in 1825. Peter Cusick, a grandson of Solomon Cusick, is now living on the Tuscarora Reservation and is over eighty years of age. He is now a frequent visitor to Pekin, and is remarkably well preserved for his years. He tells of his personal recollection of La Fayette, on his visit to Niagara Falls, coming out to the Reservation and seeking out his grandfather. The great Frenchman is said to have remarked, after embracing the faithful Tuscarora, "You have saved my life," and suiting the action to the word he took off a belt he was wearing and said, "Keep this and wear it in remembrance of my regard and affection for you."

OLDER RESIDENTS IN PEKIN.

Among the older residents in that part of Pekin that is in the Town of Lewiston are James Richardson, Stephen B. Maxon and Alva Brace. Mrs. Alexander Mabon, who died in July of this year, aged eighty-three years, was one of the oldest residents of the town. Robert Kies, Charles Howe and the older members of the Robinson family have all passed away.

On the Cambria side of Pekin Thomas Root and Matthew Pletcher are among the oldest residents. Mr. Root has twice held the office of Supervisor, and has been Justice of the peace for forty years. He was born in 1817, and is in the enjoyment of excellent health.

Town of Newfane.



NEWFANE was formed from Towns of Wilson, Hartland and Somerset, in 1824, and was named by Mrs. James Van Horn. The first town meeting was held at Mr. Van Horn's home on April 6 of that year, and the following officers were elected: Supervisor, James Wisner; Town Clerk, Jonathan Coomer; Assessors, Cornelius Van Horn, Solomon C.



MRS. HANNAH WISNER OUTWATER.

Wright and Jacob Albright; Collector, John B. McKnight; Poormasters, Ezra Barnes, Zebulon Coates; Commissioners of Highways, Robert McKnight, Archibald McDonald and Jacob Albright; Commissioners of Common Schools, Alexander Butterfield, John P. Warner and Archibald McDonald; School Inspectors, Simon Newcomb, Jr., Peter Hess and Heman Pratt; Constables, John McKnight and George Bennett. It will be observed that several citizens occupied two offices, which was no doubt due to the fact that the available material was somewhat scarce, owing to the sparsely settled country.

LIST OF SUPERVISORS.

The following Supervisors have served since the organization of the town: 1825-27, James Wisner; 1828, Stephen Hays; 1829-31, James Van Horn; 1832, Stephen Hays; 1833, James Wisner; 1834, Cornelius Van Horn; 1835, John U. Pease; 1836-40, James Wisner; 1841, David Kemp; 1842-44, Henry A. Reynolds; 1845, James Wisner; 1846, John W. Pulver; 1847, James Van Horn, Jr.; 1848, John Henning; 1849-50, Peter McCollum; 1851, John Henning; 1852, Walter Shaw; 1853, John Henning; 1854, James Van Horn, Jr.; 1857-60, James Van Horn; 1861-62, John McCollum; 1863-65, Marcellus Washburn; 1866-67, Alexander Campbell; 1868-69, Charles S. McCollum; 1870, Ziba Richardson; 1871, John McCollum; 1872, Benjamin S. Laughlin; 1873-74, Anthony McKie; 1875-77, William V. Corwin; 1878, James A. McCollum; 1879, William V. Corwin; 1880-

81, Phineas H. Corwin; 1882-83, T. Webster Hoyt; 1884-86, J. Marville Harwood; 1887, James D. Lockwood; 1888-90, James A. McCollum; 1891-94, William Shaw; 1895-98, George E. Shaw; 1899-1902, William Shaw.

EARLY SETTLERS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS.

William Chambers and John Brewer were the earliest settlers of whom there is any record. They came from Canada in 1807. Burgoyne Kemp and Peter Hopkins came in 1808, Francis Albright in 1809, James and William Wisner in 1810, and Levi Lewis in 1811. In 1809 Mr. Hopkins built his log house near the mouth of Hopkins Creek, and about 1811 Benjamin Halstead built at the mouth of Eighteen-Mile Creek. Martin Burch built the first frame house in town, on the Lake Road. Up to 1810 buildings erected by Messrs. Chambers, Kemp and Brewer were the only structures east of the creek. In the same year Francis Albright, the Wisners and others settled on the Lake Road on that side. Mrs. Hannah Wisner Outwater, a daughter of William and Margaret Wisner, is now living in her eighty-second year, on the farm of which Ontario Outing Park is now a part, where she was born, and where her parents settled ten years before.

George Lindsay moved into the town about 1810 and located on the farm adjoining the one on which his son, John M. Lindsay, lived and died. Harman Lindsay, grandson of George Lindsay, was born in 1834 and still has his residence in Newfane.

In 1812 Asa Douglass opened a small store at the settlement, which then went by the name of Kempville. John Eddy succeeded him in 1816. Boyce & Falwell conducted another store in the early days. Archibald McDonald opened a store in 1821, and after the building of the Van Horn Mills he opened another store near by.

Shubal Merritt came to Niagara County in 1812, located on the Lake Road and built a sawmill on Keg Creek, north of the Lake Road, in 1827.

INFLUX AFTER THE WAR.

The War of 1812 affected the Town of Newfane almost as much as the Town of Lewiston, and there was a general exodus of the settlers. At the close of the war many returned and others came in as well. Among these were Benjamin Coomer, who settled in the western part, where the Coomer Road perpetuates his name. Benjamin Halstead, Benjamin Stout and others settled in the north part. James McClew and the McKie and Patterson families took up land along Eighteen-Mile Creek; Alvin Buck and Solomon C. Wright in the south part; James Hess and Ira Tompkins in the east.

Among the citizens of those early years were Jonathan Coomer, Elisha and Almeron Newman, Nathaniel Church, James D. Cooper, Stephen Hays, James and Cornelius Van Horn, John Pease, David Kemp, Henry A. Reynolds and Hiram Ferguson. The son of the latter, Fred Ferguson, now owns and resides on the farm on which he was born and which his father purchased in 1835 from the Holland Land Company, the original deed to which is now in possession of Fred Ferguson.

THE VAN HORN FAMILY.

The founder of the Van Horn family in the Town of Newfane was James Van Horn, who came from Seneca County before the War of 1812, and built the first brick house in the town. He had two sons and a daughter by his first wife, Daniel, Cornelius and Sallie. By his second wife

he had six children, Launey, James, John, Burt, Elizabeth and Caroline, all of them having passed away.

Daniel, the oldest son of James Van Horn, was a Justice of the Peace eight years, and Supervisor for four years, in in the town of Hartland, and for three years was County Judge of Niagara County. He left seven children. Cornelius Van Horn moved to Indiana early in life and died in that State. Launey Van Horn lived in the West a number of years, and subsequently returned and died in Newfane.

John Van Horn was the first president of the Pioneer Association. He served as County Clerk and County Treasurer of Niagara County, and for a number of years was in mercantile business in Lockport.

James Van Horn represented his district in the State Assembly and served as Supervisor from Newfane.

Burt Van Horn served several terms as Member of Congress from this Congressional district, and was also Member of Assembly. He was Internal Revenue Collector for this district for a term, with headquarters at Rochester. Burt Van Horn had two sons by his first wife, Burt and Willis. Burt Van Horn, the younger, was manager of the International Traction Company and its allied branches until his resignation in 1901. Willis Van Horn for a number of years has been in the cold storage business at Niagara Falls.

THE CORWINS.

Phineas H. Corwin came to Niagara County at an early day and engaged in farming on the Hess Road, which at the time was a wilderness, and was also one of the first boat-owners on the Erie Canal. He died at the age of fifty-eight. He had five children, three boys, two of whom, William V. and Phineas H., have grown to manhood and taken prominent parts in the business life of the town.

William V. Corwin was born in 1832. He has been Supervisor four years and has always taken a deep interest in the welfare of the community. He was one of the earliest and most persistent advocates of the building of the trolley line from Lockport to Olcott, and in April, 1902, he was appointed general freight agent for the line. "Corwins" is a station on the electric road this side of Charlotteville, where William V. and Phineas H. Corwin have two fine farms and residences adjoining.

Phineas H. Corwin has held a number of prominent offices in the town, and served two years as Supervisor. He was director and president of the Niagara County Agricultural Society for a term of years, and also a director of the Orleans and Niagara Mutual Fire Insurance Company. He has been a member of the local Masonic lodge for forty years. He was appointed Postmaster at Newfane in September, 1897, and still holds that office.

THE M'COLLUM FAMILY.

Peter and Abigail McCollum came from Schenectady County in 1819, moving all their possessions in a lumber wagon and settling on a farm about a mile west of Charlotteville, on the Ide Road, now occupied by their descendants. They raised four children to maturity, John, Abigail, Charles S. and James A., all of whom have passed away, James A., the youngest, having died early in 1902.

The widow of John McCollum is yet living on part of the old farm. She has two daughters living on the Coomer Road.

Abigail, a daughter of the pioneer, married Christopher C. Parker, who now lies on Walnut Street, Lockport, and whose daughter is the wife of Daniel E. Brong, former District Attorney of Niagara County.

Charles S. McCollum married Miss Carrie C. Statts,

who has three children living, J. Allen, Grace and Clarence McCollum. She lives on the old homestead with her daughter, Grace. J. Allen McCollum now operates a large general store in Charlotteville.

James A. McCollum, youngest son of the pioneer, was a bachelor and died last spring, widely lamented. He was a unique character, with many attractive personal characteristics and with a wide acquaintance. It is worthy of record that Peter McCollum and his three sons represented the Town of Newfane at different times on the Board of Supervisors. James A. McCollum was president of the Niagara County Agricultural Society when he died, having been elected at the previous annual meeting. He was also vice president for many years of the Niagara and Erie Farmers' Mutual Insurance Company. A short time after he completed his term as Supervisor he was chosen as Clerk of the Board. "Uncle Jim" was mourned by young as well as old, for the love of children was one of his chief characteristics.

HOTELS AND HOTEL KEEPERS.

Benjamin Halstead was the first of the long list of popular landlords who have conducted hostelries at Olcott, from ye old-time tavern to the modern hotels of today. He commenced in a double log house in 1812. He was succeeded by Messrs. Brady, Harris, Nichols and William D. Cooper, the latter of whom built the Cooper House on the same site.

William H. Ten Brook purchased the Cooper House in 1874 and conducted it for several years, after which he exchanged this property with his father, the late William Ten Brook, for the Grove House and grove at Olcott, the building having been built and occupied years before by J. D. Cooper as a residence. This is the present site of the beautiful Olcott Beach park. For many years it went by the name of Ten Brook's grove, and at this place the annual picnic of the Pioneer Association has been held for twenty-five years. William Ten Brook continued to conduct the Cooper House up to the time of his death, which occurred on the morning of the day of the Pioneer picnic, 1889.

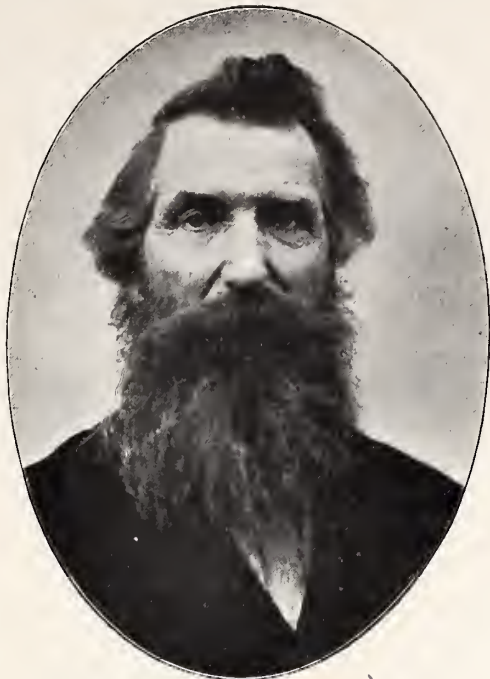
The "Albright" hotel, now in operation at Olcott, was built in the sixties and was called the Grove House. The names of the landlords were legion, as the place frequently changed hands. Among mine hosts of the Albright were Marshall Martin, William Ten Brook, Thomas N. Ashford and others. About 1890 Contractor William J. Blackley and others secured the property, together with the entire square of land, of which the Albright forms a part. The new owners remodeled the Albright and improved it greatly. The owners ran it on their own account, with a manager in charge, for awhile, and afterward leased it for several seasons to various parties, among them William Tompkins. In 1900 the hotel was sold to Charles E. Dickinson, who leased it to Duane S. Dindruff. Within the year Mr. Dickinson sold out to Rochester parties, and the hotel is now managed by Charles F. Rees.

ROADS.

The Coomer Road was laid out at an early date by Benjamin Coomer, who died in 1817. The Hess Road was laid out in the fall of 1821 by the Commissioner of Highways and Surveyor, Peter Hess assisting in cutting out the logs and brush. The road derived its name from the Hess brothers, who lived along the line. The Creek Road is one of the oldest thoroughfares in the County, having been laid out as early as 1808 or 1809. The Ewing Road was thus named from families living along it. The Lake Road was one of the first to be built; it is a little south of the road that Bur-



J. ALLEN M'COLLUM.



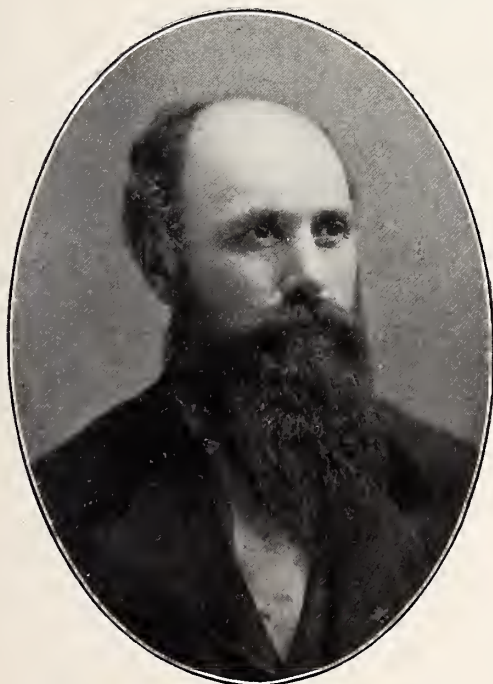
ALBERT TOMPKINS.



B. C. WARREN.



HARMON LINDSAY.



O. C. BORDWELL.



P. H. CORWIN.



EUGENE J. M'CLEW.

goyne Kemp cut along the lake shore for the Holland Land Company, east of the County line.

OTHER FAMILIES.

Ira Tompkins came to Newfane in the fall of 1817. He settled on the west bank of Eighteen-Mile Creek at Van Horn's. He and James Van Horn took up four three-quarter sections at that place from the Holland Land Company. Mr. Tompkins was a millwright, in active business for over half a century. Albert Tompkins, his son, is now living, at the age of eighty-one, near the Tompkins mill that his father operated for a long term of years. He is one of the oldest citizens now living who were born in the town. His younger brother, Enoch, lives on the old homestead, near Burt.

Shubal Merritt came into Niagara County in 1812, settling on the Lake Road, three miles east of Olcott. Five brothers and one sister accompanied him, and they all located in the vicinity. One son of his, Shubal Merritt (who died March 2, 1880), had two daughters, Mrs. Lucius F. Adams, of Lewis street, Lockport, and Mrs. Theodore Van Wagoner, of the Town of Lockport. John Merritt, brother of the first Shubal Merritt, had five sons, George, Harry, Edward, John A. and Willis. John A. Merritt is at present Postmaster at Washington, and former Third Assistant Postmaster General.

Charles McClew came with his parents into the town from Montgomery County when a boy, in 1826. He died on May 9, 1898. His sons, Eugene J. McClew and C. Herbert McClew, are among the prominent citizens of the town. A daughter, Agnes, lives with her mother in the old homestead.

O. C. Bordwell is among the older citizens of the County who have filled the office of Member of Assembly. He served during the years 1874 and 1875. He was born in Yates County, June 13, 1832, and came to Niagara County with his parents in the spring of 1836, locating in Hartland, where they died at a good old age. O. C. Bordwell came to Newfane in 1867. He has been for a number of years one of the vice presidents of the Pioneer Association.

Barney Warren was one of the early settlers on the Coomer Road, locating there in 1834. His son, Benjamin C. Warren, was born March 19, 1844, on the farm where he now resides.

Abram Staats came to the then Village of Lockport from Monroe County in 1841, and in 1856 the family moved to the Town of Newfane. His daughter, Sarah J., married Ziba Richardson, who superintended the laying of the tracks of the Central Railroad from Albion to Niagara Falls, and afterward bought and occupied a farm in Newfane. Another daughter married Charles S. McCollum. A son, William H. Staats, is a Past Commander of Jacob Brauker Post, No. 547, Grand Army of the Republic; director of the Orleans and Niagara Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and for twenty years has been one of the best known citizens of the town throughout the County as the traveling representative of the Lockport Journal.

NECROLOGY OF THE PAST FEW YEARS.

Among those who lived to a good old age and died during the past few years are D. C. Leonard, C. V. Tompkins, John Henning, Charles S. and James A. McCollum, Jeremiah Angevine, John Bracken, Charles and James McClew, Reeves Corwin, Jacob Bixler, Hiram Ferguson, William S. Wright, Alexander Campbell.

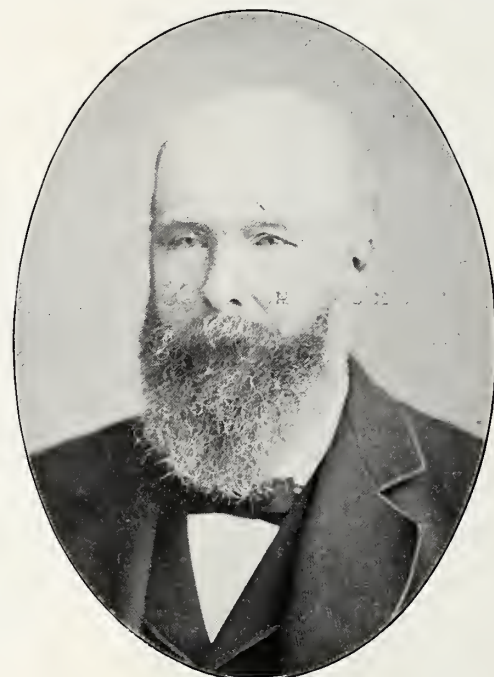
EARLY DAYS IN OLCOTT.

The Village of Olcott, at the mouth of Eighteen-Mile

Creek, on Lake Ontario, has an excellent harbor, and for many years has been a port of entry, with a custom house. Two long piers, one on either side of the mouth of the creek, have been built out into the lake 800 feet by the United States Government, and provide safe harbor facilities for large vessels. This work was done between 1870 and 1877, at a cost of about \$200,000. James D. Cooper started these improvements, having built a pier and warehouse on the east side of the creek. Mr. Cooper promoted the early settlement of Olcott. He surveyed his real estate on the east side of the creek into lots, which were sold at prices that brought in a number of settlers.

Dr. Alexander Butterfield was the first postmaster at Olcott, then called Kempville, and received his appointment December 4, 1820. The early mails were brought from Hartland Corners by anyone who happened to be journeying thither. Dr. Butterfield's original commission is now in possession of his grandson, M. Brady, of Lockport, and reads as follows:

"Know ye, that confiding in the integrity, ability and punctuality of Alexander Butterfield, Esq., I do appoint him



W. V. CORWIN.

a postmaster and authorize him to execute that office at Kempville, Niagara County, State of New York. * * *

It was signed by Return J. Meigs, "Junior Postmaster General." Two of Dr. Butterfield's daughters married Methodist preachers, one of them Rev. Ryan Smith, who preached in Lockport in 1865, and the other Rev. Mr. Sargent, of the Methodist Book Concern. Another daughter married the father of Rev. Frank M. Bristol, pastor of the Metropolitan Methodist Church, of Washington, in which President McKinley was a communicant.

The present postmaster is C. L. Lombard, who is serving his second term. His predecessor was Mortimer C. Swarthout, who was previously Inspector of Harbor Improvements along the lake front, at Olcott, Wilson and other points.

OPENING OF THE TROLLEY TO OLCOTT.

The most prominent event in recent years in the history of Olcott has been its connection, in 1900, with Lockport by an electric railroad. This road was opened to the public for the first time on the occasion of the Pioneers' picnic at Olcott, on August 29, 1900, and on that date thousands of persons were carried to the lakeside resort, which

has since been so improved that it is one of the finest summer resorts to be found anywhere in the State.

During the year that the railroad was built between Lockport and Olcott work was begun on the mammoth and finely appointed Olcott Beach hotel. This hotel was built at the west end of the magnificent pine grove, said to be the finest on the south shore of Lake Ontario, and it was not really finished until 1901, although some parts were ready for occupancy the previous year.

IMPROVEMENTS AT THE GROVE.

At the time the hotel was being built the railway company, which had obtained the ownership of the fine grove, began to improve it in many ways, which were calculated to make it what it is today, the finest summer resort in Western New York. To this end a handsome trolley railway station was built at the eastern entrance to the park and a little way within the grove westward from this station building, in

ished, about 300 feet into Lake Ontario. The pier is built is used as an ice cream parlor and restaurant. is also being constructed a short distance east of the steel pier for the especial accommodation of small boats and bathers.

NEW BUILDINGS IN THE VILLAGE.

In the village proper many improvements have been made in the last two or three years since the railway company began setting an example. The older hotels and stores have taken on a livelier appearance and new buildings have sprung up in different parts of the village.

Among the more prominent of these may be mentioned the village station of the trolley road, the handsome new boathouse, presided over by Ed. Martin, the veteran boatman of the village, and the casino on the hill close by, which out from the beach below the hotel. A smaller cement pier

Among the most notable of the additions to Olcott is



RUSTIC THEATRE.

a natural ravine, the company built a very pretty little open air theater in rustic design. From the stage of this theater some of the noted men of the country, including President Roosevelt, Captain Hobson and others, have spoken to the people of Niagara County.

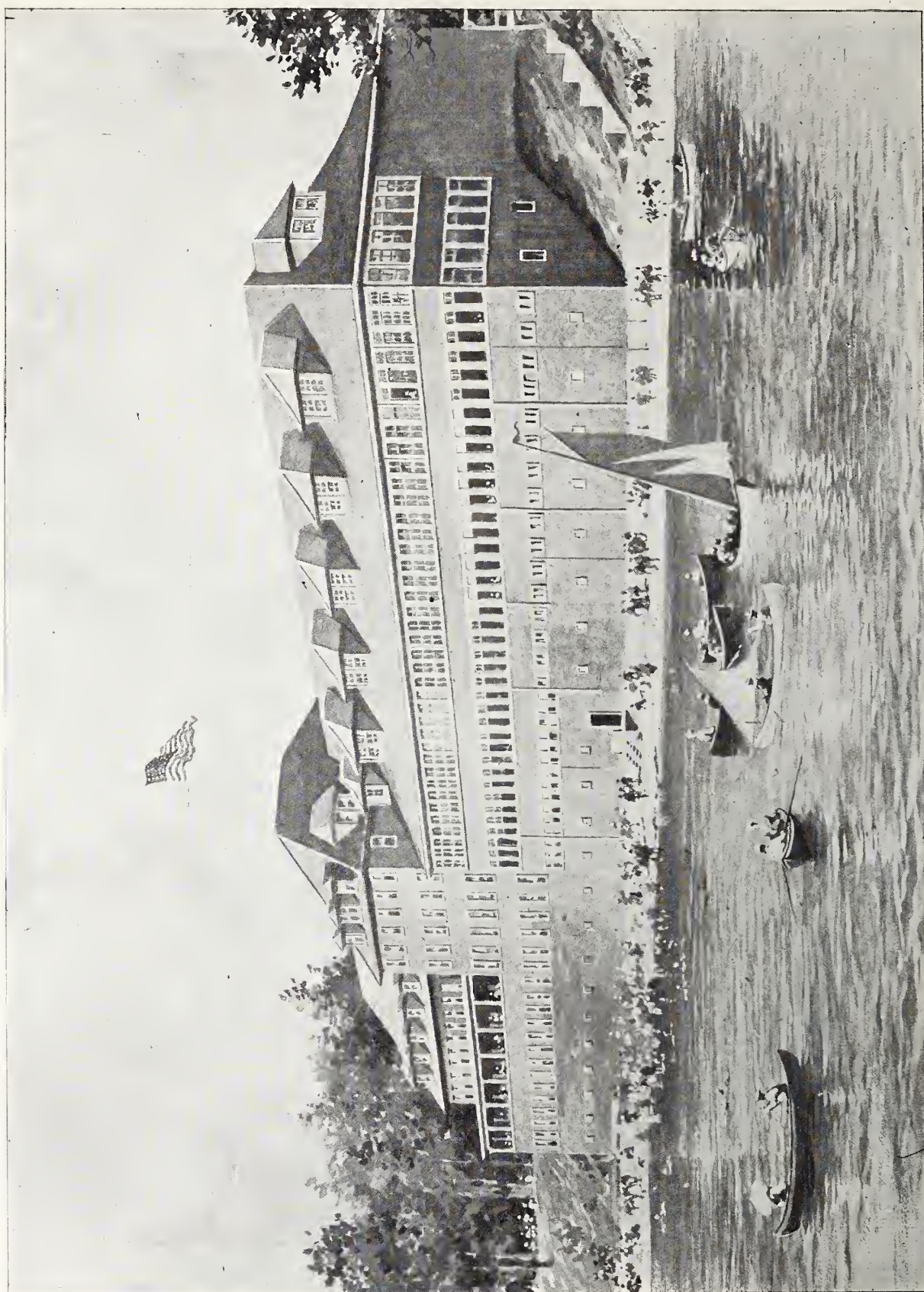
Farther west in the grove a shelter and refreshment booth and a number of pretty little kiosks were built, and then on the extreme western limit one comes to the great hotel with its magnificent casino, dining hall, bathing pavilions and other conveniences of the modern up-to-date resort. The company also began in 1900 the construction of a substantial cement breakwater wall at the foot of the high bluff, and, when in the following year this was finished, the face of the bluff was smoothed and sown with grass, becoming a beautiful sloping verdure-clad bank instead of a rough sand bluff. In 1902 the railway company began to add further improvements to the resort by beginning the construction of a great steel and cement pier, which will extend, when fin-

ished, about 300 feet into Lake Ontario. The pier is built is used as an ice cream parlor and restaurant.

A few years ago the veterans of the Town of Newfane and the surrounding country united to place a handsome monument at the intersection of the Lake avenue road to Lockport with the main street of the village to the memory of their fallen comrades in the great rebellion. The monument is an ornament and a handsome testimonial of the regard of the comrades of the fallen for their fellows in arms in the defense of country.

THE HARBOR.

A recent appropriation was obtained from the Federal Government for the purpose of deepening the harbor at Olcott, and even as this history is being written the great dredges are at work scooping up the black mud of the harbor bottom so that it may be deepened to accommodate the great lake ships and steamers which are expected to stop there. Already, since the village became connected with the



OLCOTT BEACH HOTEL.

outside world by the trolley, a line of steamers has made the port a regular stopping point.

There are those who hope the day is not far distant when Olcott will take its place as a great lake shipping port for the coal and iron trade.

Whatever the future may have in store for the village its citizens will not forget that the renewal of its youth and prosperity came with the advent of the steel ribbon which connected it with the cities of Western New York by way of Lockport, nor will they cease to hope that, whatever of commerce may gather in its harbor, the beauty of the place as an ideal summer resort may never be destroyed.

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

The surplus waters of the Erie Canal are discharged into Lake Ontario from Lockport through Eighteen-Mile Creek, the total fall from the upper level at Lockport to Lake Ontario being over 300 feet. The water in making this fall passes over a number of dams, several of which are in the City of Lockport and others in the Town of Newfane.

Two of the dams are at Charlotteville. The upper one furnishes power for the flour mill of William Collins and the lumber mill of the Newfane Basket Manufacturing company.

THE UPPER DAM AT CHARLOTTEVILLE.

The Collins flour mill has been operated for at least seventy-five years—for the past quarter century by William Collins.

Shaw & Vincent started the business now conducted by the Newfane Basket Manufacturing Company, of which Selden D. Redman is President; Robert D. Wilson, Secretary; Charles J. Miller, Treasurer; James A. Kelley, Vice President and Manager. The company operate a basket factory, sawmill and lumber yard. The officers have served the company for a number of years. James A. Kelley came to the Town of Newfane with his parents in 1860 and has resided there since. He has held his present office in the administration of the affairs of the company since 1887. Charles J. Miller, Treasurer, is also Treasurer of the Niagara County Farmers' Club. He was born in Newfane in 1865, and graduated from Lockport High School and Cornell University, receiving the degree of B. S., in 1890. He is owner of Meadowbrook farm, which is devoted to the breeding of thoroughbred Guernsey cattle.

INDUSTRIES AT LOWER DAM.

The lower dam at Charlotteville is owned by the Lockport Felt Company. Over fifty years ago Daniel Van Horn discovered the fact that power could be secured at this point. He built a sawmill on the spot, which he operated for a number of years. He afterward disposed of the property, and later it was converted into a woolen mill, which was run by Francis Niles, who now lives at Charlotteville and is eighty-six years of age. The mill was subsequently sold to George Van Ostrand, who disposed of it to Andrew Ten Brook. Later Van Ostrand bought the property again and afterward sold it to the Lockport Felt Company. The mill employs forty-five hands in producing felts for use in paper and pulp mills. It is interesting to note that a not inconsiderable part of the product of the company is sold in England, at a much higher price than the English article, which demonstrates the skill that our artisans have achieved in the production. The company have recently installed an electrical plant for lighting their mill.

ELECTRICITY IN CHARLOTTEVILLE.

The Newfane Electric Company was organized to distribute electricity from this dam throughout the Town of

Newfane. The streets of Charlotteville are now completely and brilliantly lighted by electricity, and every store in the village, one of the churches and many private residences are lighted by electricity.

THE TOMPKINS GRIST MILL.

The Tompkins grist mill is situated on Eighteen-Mile Creek, about a mile south of Charlotteville. It was built originally in the early part of the century and was rebuilt in 1869 by Hon. Ira Tompkins, who operated it for a number of years. His son, Albert Tompkins, subsequently operated the mill. It is now conducted by Frank Anderson, of Lockport.

THE VAN HORN WOOLEN MILL.

The creek flows down past the two dams at Charlotteville, whose work has been described, and a mile and a half north of the village is the former site of the old Van Horn woolen mill, the ruins of which are still to be seen. Thirty years ago it was operated by a stock company, among the prominent shareholders being Hon. Burt Van Horn, Hon. Franklin Spalding, Morrison W. Evans, James P. Murphy, Alfred Van Wagner and George W. Bowen. The company had a store on Main street, Lockport. They employed a large number of hands and dwellings were erected near by, some of which are now standing, though many have fallen into ruin. The product of the company was very extensive, most of it being taken by A. T. Stewart, of New York.

THE VAN HORN GRIST MILL.

A half mile below the site of the Van Horn woolen mill, where the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg Railway crosses the creek, is the site of the old grist mill that James Van Horn built in the early years of the century, and which was destroyed by the British in 1813. In 1817 the mill was rebuilt by Mr. Van Horn, with Ira Tompkins as millwright, on the site of the present power house at Burt. The mill has since been burned two or three times and as often rebuilt by James Van Horn. Two years ago the present power house was built on the site.

A GREAT WATER POWER PROJECTED.

The above location is the site of the proposed dam of the Lockport and Newfane Power and Water Supply Company. In the year 1892 Hon. Timothy E. Ellsworth, Jesse Peterson, Willard T. Ransom, Willis H. Howes, Francis N. Trevor, William W. Trevor and Thomas M. McGrath, all of the City of Lockport, purchased what was then known as the Guibord water power, which was then being operated as a flouring and grist mill at the above place. Soon thereafter the seven gentlemen above named incorporated the Tuscarora Pulp Company, with the following officers; Willard T. Ransom, President; William W. Trevor, Vice President; Thomas M. McGrath, Secretary and Treasurer; the foregoing and Messrs. Ellsworth, Peterson, F. N. Trevor and Howes being directors. The water privileges were obtained for the purpose of developing them into a mammoth water power by purchasing flowage rights for two miles south, but which was not accomplished until 1900. In that year Messrs. Peterson, Howes, McGrath and F. N. and W. W. Trevor sold their interests to Mr. Ransom. The Tuscarora Pulp Company, in the year 1900, secured the necessary flowage rights to erect a sixty-foot dam and then sold their entire rights and privileges to the Lockport and Newfane Power and Water Supply Company, with Burt Van Horn, President; Willard T. Ransom, Secretary and Treasurer, and the following Directors—Hon. T. E. Ellsworth, Hon. John A. Merritt, W. T. Ransom, Henry Ransom, of Lockport; Wil-

liam B. Rankine, of Niagara Falls; Burt Van Horn, of Burt; and Henry J. Pierce, of Buffalo. It is the intention of the present owners to erect a sixty-foot dam on the property and develop an immense power for manufacturing and other power purposes. The company has erected a power plant of considerable capacity, running by steam, the power generated being used by the Lockport and Olcott Railway and in a moderate way at present for local lighting purposes.

Reminiscences of Pioneer Life.

BY MRS. RUBY F. COOPER, NEWFANE'S OLDEST RESIDENT.

During the year of 1809 Francis Albright, native of Germany, who owned and operated a flouring mill on Allen's Creek, in Wheatland, Genesee County, came into the eldorado of the Holland Purchase, the Niagara Frontier, then an unbroken wilderness east of the mouth of Eighteen-Mile Creek, and located some 200 acres of land, lying on the west side of Keg Creek, and running west on the lake shore to William Wisner's land (now Outwater's).

The following spring his eldest son, Jacob Albright, aged twenty-four, left the home on Allen's Creek for the West, with all his belongings loaded in a wagon, with wife and child, with an ox team, a horse and a man to help him, to find the land his father located. Through roads merely chopped out they struck the ridge somewhere near Gaines, and there found a road which had been laid out from Roch-



RUBY F. COOPER.

ester to Lewiston. From Wright's Corners they must go north to the lake, with no road, a few teams had been through, following the east bank of the creek. Leaving there in early morning they reached the mouth of Eighteen-Mile Creek about sundown, and must then follow the lake east two and one-half miles before reaching a habitation. William Wisner, of Seneca County, had come the preceding fall with a brother, a lad of twelve or fourteen years, to prepare a home for his wife and little ones, who had not yet arrived. When Albright drew up in front of their light they were welcomed with joy, and the weary mother and child made as comfortable as possible. Wisner said the sweetest music he ever heard was that child's crying before they reached his house. The cabin stood on Outing Park camp ground, near the well, which was then a flowing cold spring. Albright built his log cabin near his west line to have the benefit of that spring.

The next year, 1811, the Holland Land Company had a road surveyed along the lake through Somerset, but it was forty or fifty rods south of the few homes the settlers had built.

Burgoyne Kemp was to cut out and make the road passable, and settlers soon began to come in.

Zebulon Coates, from New Jersey, built his hewed log house on land he took up in 1811, where P. T. Dix now resides on his beautiful fruit farm. He sold in 1836 and moved to Wilson, on the Lake Road, and died there at the advanced age of eighty-nine.

After the war other settlers came in: Shubal Merritt, grandfather of John A. Merritt, and two married sons; Benjamin Halstead, David Wisner and sons; Jehial Wisner, cousin of David, and a Baptist minister—the first and only preacher located in this lake shore territory for many years; Zebedee Stout, grandfather of the Stouts, now living on or near the old home farm; Nathaniel Swarthout, Burgoyne Kemp, and the Mudgetts, together with Zebulon Coates, William Wisner and Jacob Albright, were the first settlers on the lake and Lake Road east of the Eighteen-Mile Creek to the east line of the Town of Newfane.

NEWFANE IN THE WAR OF 1812.

The winter of 1813 and year following was most trying to the courage and nerves of the settlers. Not knowing what day or hour a marauding party of half-drunken Indians and soldiers from the British fort would march upon them to burn, murder and devastate, the inhabitants took from their houses and little barns everything they could spare, storing them in shelters they built in the thickets out of sight, leaving them there for weeks and months.

A squad of British burned the house of Zebulon Coates, and the houses at the mouth of the Eighteen-Mile Creek, except that of the Kemps, where they stayed over night, and which the commanding officer spared through sympathy for the sick mother.

Fortunately for the families east of the creek they went no farther in this direction, but burned the mill at Van Horn's after allowing a number of barrels from the 250 stored there to be saved for the inhabitants.

No person living in this favored and beautiful Niagara County today can realize the hardships, excitement and fear the pioneers endured. The war with England was cruel, as they employed the hostile Indians, and incited them to deeds of violence, by giving them rum to craze their savage natures.

It is well a better spirit prevails. May the two nations always remain friends, and may the descendants of these brave pioneers never forget that to their energy, courage and perseverance we owe many of the blessings and privileges we enjoy.

AN INCIDENT OF PIONEER LIFE.

The evening the British officer and his company reached the mouth of the Eighteen-Mile Creek, with orders to burn the Van Horn mills and destroy everything belonging to the settlers, Albright, who had put up a sawmill on Keg Creek, south of the road about sixty rods, went to a neighbor's house, built where the Hess Road strikes the Lake Road, this neighbor having sent a messenger to the frontier to learn if all was quiet there.

After they left Mrs. Albright dragged a heavy chest against the door and sat down to her sewing, feeling quite brave. But soon she heard a noise that alarmed her. She listened, and was satisfied it was not the screeching of a wild animal. She unbarred the door and heard: "Hello, the

house; turn out, turn out, the Indians are coming!" They were going east on the new road, so far away she could not answer them. Her two children, a girl of four and a boy one year old, were asleep. She awoke the eldest, wrapped her up, told her they were going to meet father, and she must keep awake and not cry. Then taking her boy in her arms, and the girl on her back, she started over the snow-covered ground, along the footpath to where it intersected the road, about opposite the sawmill, a quarter of a mile from the house. As she approached the road, under a large tree that lay parallel with and a rod from it, she found dry leaves and no snow, and decided that here she must leave the eldest child.

It was late in December, and covering her up as well as she could with the leaves, she told her she must lie still and make no noise if she heard people passing and talking or the Indians would find her; that her father would soon come, and when she heard him call "Louisa" she must answer. The mother hurried on to cross the creek, with its high banks covered with dense hemlock, and quite a resort for black bears, hoping to meet her husband.

As she reached the top of the hill her strength failed and she sat down to rest, but soon saw a light approaching. It came nerer and she found it was her husband, who would not have been more surprised had he met the red coats.

The messenger had brought word that the British would not go far east of the creek, and Albright was hastening home with the good news.

After telling where she concealed the child, and what she said to her, he left the boy to help her back, and ran ahead to get the girl. When he came near the log where she was hidden he began talking, jabbering and stamping about to imitate Indians and soldiers, but not a sound came from the log, and thinking she had fallen asleep he called "Louisa," and instantly came the answer, "Here I am." He caught her up and ran with her to the house, where the lad with the tired mother and babe soon came, and when they were seated around the fire, not much the worse for the fright, they felt thankful to God for His care and mercy.

When word reached the hamlet that the British troops were only a mile or two away all was consternation. Supposing the Indians, who had committed so many deeds of violence on the river frontier, were with them, the inhabitants expected no mercy, and there was an agreement among the neighbors that the one first hearing of their approach should warn the rest. A young lad who was sent to Kempville the same evening to learn the news, not waiting to get the correct word, jumped on his horse and rode down to Keg Creek, shouting at every house, "Turn out, turn out; the Indians are coming!" and this was the result of the news in one family.

Town of Pendleton.

BY AUSTIN F. KINNE.

PENDLETON was created a town April 16, 1827, from the Town of Niagara. It was named for Pendleton Clark, one of the earliest residents. The following officers were elected at the first town meeting in May 1827: Supervisor, Lyman E. Thayer; Town Clerk, Garrett Van Slyke; Assessors, Nathaniel Sykes, David Candler and James C. Hawley; Collector, Kimball Ferrin; Commissioners of Highways, Willard Sykes, Lawrence Pickard and John Baker; Overseers of the Poor, Bai-

ley Curtis and Russell Richards; School Commissioners, Henry Keyes, Alanson Sykes and John Schuyler; School Inspectors, James Henderson, Abel Rug and Asa Milliken; Constable, Horace Thacher.

THE TOWN'S SUPERVISORS.

The following Supervisors have served since the organization of the town: 1827-28, Lyman E. Thayer, 1829, Asa Millikin; 1830-32, John Pratt; 1833, Lawrence Pickard,



FRED FERGUSON.

1834, John Pratt; 1835, Nathaniel Sykes; 1836-37, Anthony Ames; 1838, Silas Olmsted; 1839-47, Lawrence Pickard; 1848, Cyrus F. Williams; 1849-53, Lawrence Pickard; 1854, Elisha B. Swift; 1855-56, George Kelsey; 1857, Linus J. Peck; 1858, Hiram Pomroy; 1859-61, Lyman Goodridge; 1862, Hartman Richard; 1863-65, Albert H. Pickard; 1866, Morris Wire; 1867, Albert H. Pickard; 1868-70, Alexander H. Ellis; 1871-72, Frederick S. Parsons; 1873-75, Gilbert C. Richards; 1876-77, Albert H. Pickard; 1878, Amos A. Brown; 1879, Herman J. Leland; 1880-82, Martin Wendell; 1883, Lawrence A. Pickard; 1884, Herman J. Leland; 1885, Martin Wendell; 1886-88, Joseph C. Rickard; 1889-90, Aaron D. Thompson; 1891-92, Alvin Van Slyke; 1893-94, William Babel; 1895-96, Alvin Van Slyke; 1897-1901, Matthias L. Rickard; 1902, Jacob Snell, Jr.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS.

Briefly described, the whole region of the town is a plain, gently undulating, and having a slight descent to the south. There are six local centers, or points of conveyance within the town. Of these the most important is Pendleton Center, near the center of the town, while Pendleton Village, in the southern part, on the Tonawanda Creek, is the oldest and largest. The Erie Canal divides the town into two parts, which are connected by several substantial and costly bridges, built and maintained at the expense of the State, and named in order as you ascend the canal, the Riley bridge, at the north line of the town; then the Hawley bridge, the Guard Lock bridge and, lastly, the Pendleton bridge, near Pendleton Village.

The town is also connected with Erie County, by three iron bridges, the Pendleton, the New Home bridge at Wendelville and the Pickard bridge.

The town is crossed by two railroads, the Lockport and Buffalo branch of the Central, with a freight and passenger

station at Mapleton, and the other the well known trolley line, with three stations within the town, Hodgeville, Pendleton Center, and, lastly, Hoffman, on the division line between this town and the Town of Wheatfield.

PENDLETON'S DEBT TO THE CANAL.

Historically speaking, if I plainly express my real conviction, I say Pendleton owes, if not its very existence, all its substantial progress and prosperity, to the canal. It owes apparent prosperity, but really devastation, to the Central, while it has undoubtedly been benefited by the so-called "trolley line" through its freight and passenger station at Pendleton Center. Here is the proof. The Erie Canal found the region, now comprised in the Town of Pendleton, thinly inhabited, the people dispirited, apathetic, scourged with fever and ague, and appalled at the herculean task of removing the vast forests. There is no more heavily wooded region on the continent than was the valley of the Tonawanda in the early days, if we except the red wood forests of the Pacific slope.

READY MONEY FROM THE TREES.

The canal opened up a market for timber and afforded a means for transporting it in a way that made it most valuable—that is in the shape of trees. Ship timber! No wonder the settlers leaped for joy. They had large tracts of land. They had wood for fuel. They could live. That was about the sum total. They might, indeed, now and then obtain a few English shillings by making black salts in the swamps, by selling a few pounds of maple sugar, a dish of wild honey or the carcass of a deer, but there was no market for these, and after a long tramp to Buffalo, to Lewiston, or even to Batavia, the settlers might not be able to obtain any money for their stuff, but be compelled to change it for a night's lodging, a pound of tea or a few yards of cheap cloth. But now the timber, the miserable, worthless trees, could be sold for money. A tree, a single tree, of the millions that abounded, would buy a gown for wife, toys for the children, a jerkin for the farmer, and, more, leave a few shillings to jingle in his pocket, pleasant sounds—sweet music to his ears.

Did the canal do anything for this man of the Town of Pendleton. Put yourself in the settler's place. The forests rapidly disappeared and the Town and Village of Pendleton thrived and grew apace.

GROWTH OF THE TOWN.

But prosperity and great numbers of settlers came together. The canal was too small. It was made bigger and more capacious. The forests disappeared faster. The people soon were more presentable. Commodious dwellings, capacious barns, school houses and churches arose. All this from the timber that went down the canal. But with all this cause of exultation was one sad affliction. A portion of the old canal, that very portion upon which Pendleton Village was located, was abandoned. Alas! the ill-fated village received a staggering blow, from which it never completely recovered.

SETTLERS SELL THEIR TIMBER.

The Buffalo branch of the Central came. Every one knows that the construction of a railroad requires immense quantities of timber. Though the hard woods of the town were exhausted, there were yet large tracts of soft wood forests remaining. By the offer of the most monstrous and unheard of prices, the railroad's representatives induced the citizens of Pendleton to sell them their timber. The woods disappeared as if by magic. Never in the history of Pen-

dleton was money obtained so easily and so readily. Lumbermen came from Michigan, Pennsylvania and other parts to engage in the work. Mountains of ties and fuel arose about every station. Many farmers did not quit until they had sold their last stick. Disastrous and damaging fires followed in many instances.

The farmers obtained the money and, "easy come, easy go," they spent it, and awoke with the sad consciousness that their fencing material, their fuel, their partial protection from the bleak, biting winds which sweep over this region was gone, and, worse, the money was gone, too.

LUMBERING GONE FOREVER.

Lumbering as an occupation closed forever in the Town of Pendleton. And now let us remark what has long been obvious to the reader, doubtless, that the people of Pendleton had never been farmers in any correct sense. They simply were lumbermen, who did a little farming. To be sure, many owned and cultivated large farms, but their farming was without philosophy, without compensating elements, without forethought, without pleasure, and in a great majority of instances without profit. It was simply robbing the soil exactly as they had denuded the forests. I am not reproachful. I do not wish to convey the idea that in this respect they are peculiar, or sinners above all other men. I simply state what has come under my own observation, and the conclusion I draw.

EARLY SETTLERS.

The first settlers of which there is any record are Martin Van Slyke and Jacob Christman, who settled on Tonawanda Creek, in the western part of the town, in 1808. John and Adam Fulmer settled in the southern part in 1812, having purchased 252 acres of land of the Holland Land Company. As in other towns, settlement progressed much more rapidly after the war. Hartman Pickard and his son, Lawrence, came in 1816 and were among the leading citizens of the town. Pickard's bridge is named after this family. The latter married a daughter of Philip Woolever, who had a farm three miles from Tonawanda, in 1816, and another on which he settled, a mile west of Pendleton, in 1823. Cunrod Richard located on Tonawanda Creek in 1816, and Garret Van Slyke settled in the western part of the town in 1822.

BEACH AND BEAR RIDGES.

Asa Andrews purchased a farm on Beach Ridge in 1824, and Luther Leland followed him in 1827. Henry Tripp settled in the locality in 1824, and lived in the same place for over eighty years. Alfred Poole came in 1826 and Silas Hall, at the northern limit of Beach Ridge, in May, 1835, when it was yet a wilderness.

Thomas Leonard located on Bear Ridge in 1833, and after living there ten years removed to Mapleton, where he died. Matthew Ten Brook moved to Bear Ridge in the forties, and died on his farm there at the age of eighty-two.

PENDLETON VILLAGE.

After the completion of the canal Pendleton became a good deal of a timber and stave market. Austin Simons was identified with this industry in 1831, and for thirty-five years thereafter. William B. Lewis had a store there in 1834, was Postmaster for sixteen years and Justice of the Peace for over thirty years.

Pendleton Clark, for whom the town was named, erected the first building in the vicinity, a log tavern, in 1821, when the place was a wilderness. The first store was opened by Jerry S. Jenks.

THE GERMANS.

Previous records of the town have justly given emigrants from Germany credit for making the most permanent agricultural improvements in the town. By exercising patience, perseverance, and unflagging industry, they have secured for themselves cultivated farms, comfortable homes and a certain degree of luxury.

The first German settlement was on Tonawanda Creek, west of the village. Philip Woock, an immigrant from Bavaria, landed there, with his family, in 1832. John A. Koepfinger and his wife and Joseph Schimp located at the same time.

Orrin Fisk, according to the record, located on the east side of the canal in 1844, and John Baker is stated to have been the only other settler in the vicinity at the time.

"AS GOES PENDLETON, SO GOES THE STATE."

The foregoing is an old political maxim that has come down to the present generation from the experience of politicians of many a bygone campaign, and it should by no means be overlooked. It has been verified frequently enough to perpetuate the proverb in the minds of the voters of the County.

Town of Somerset.

BY MRS. JACOB S. HAIGHT.

THE Town of Somerset, situated in the northeastern corner of Niagara County, its northern boundary touching the shore of beautiful Lake Ontario, was once, during the memory of some of its present inhabitants, the home of the Indian braves and the dusky Hiawathas, the bears, wolves, panthers and the fleet-footed deer. The spot where the lovely village of Somerset, proper, now stands was then covered woods and wild berries, and the pathway out from, or into, the humble log cabin of its few settlers, was marked by blazed trees or the footprints of the stealthy steps of the red man.

The town was formed February 8, 1823, from a portion of the Town of Hartland, on the south, and in the year 1824 a portion of the Town of Newfane was added on the west, to complete its present size. It would be interesting to know who gave the name to the town, but we have not been able to ascertain that fact.

JACOB FITTS THE PIONEER.

In the spring of 1810 Jacob Fitts and family came from New Jersey to make their home in the then almost unknown wilds of Western New York, and located a few rods distant from the banks of Lake Ontario, about a mile and a half north of what is now the village of Somerset (then belonging to the Town of Hartland), and became its first settlers. The farm is still in the hands of the Fitts family, being owned by John Fitts, grandson of Jacob Fitts, and son of Loren Fitts. Hardy Fitts, another son of Loren Fitts, and grandson of Jacob Fitts, owns, and works, a farm, with the assistance of his son, Fred, who is great-grandson of Jacob Fitts, a few rods from the "old homestead" and from the banks of the same lake.

OTHER PIONEERS AND THEIR PRIVATIONS.

Five other families, Archibald Whitton, Philip Fitts, Truman and David Mudgett and Zachariah Patterson, soon came in and settled nearby, and these few made up the population until after the War of 1812. The trials and sufferings pertaining to the bitter experiences of pioneer living were the lot of this little band of "first settlers," who often

had to eat raw pumpkins or go hungry, and at other times there was nothing to eat except leeks, which grew in the woods in abundance, which they would gather and boil or eat raw. Do we, who are living in affluence and ease, and with all the comforts of life around us, honor the memory of these brave and self-sacrificing hearts as we should? Many are the incidents that could be related of adventures with savage beasts, and of the neighborly deer, which came out of the woods to share the fodder given to the cattle, and were killed for food, but the time and space given to this article will not permit.

SETTLERS AFTER THE WAR.

Soon after the close of the war upon the Niagara Frontier others began to come into the settlement and locate



MR. AND MRS. JACOB S. HAIGHT.

near those already there, and among those who first came were James E. Mathews, Isaac Starbuck, David Barker, Adam Pease, Jacob Haight, Sr., Peter Hess, Samuel Coleman, Dr. Asa B. Brown, Humphrey Sharpsteen, with their families, and a few others, which made more neighbors and helped to render the lonely existence of those already here more endurable. When the cold season of 1816 came wheat was worth twenty shillings per bushel and pork thirty-five dollars per barrel. One settler related that when he got so prosperous that he raised wheat to sell it was worth only twenty-five cents per bushel, and once, when he had a tax of twenty shillings to pay, he carried butter sixty miles and sold it for one shilling per pound to pay that.

David Barker came to Somerset, then a part of Hartland, November 20, 1815, from Charlotte, Vermont. He resided until his death, at the age of nearly ninety, on the farm on which he originally settled. He was an attendant at the early meetings of the Pioneer Association, and frequently related incidents of pioneer days on the occasion of those gatherings. He held various town offices, besides serving four terms as Supervisor. Mr. Barker is known better, perhaps, to the present generation than any of the early settlers. His life was one unusually long and his faculties were well preserved.

George H. Bradley was born in Vermont, August 12, 1830. He came with his parents to the Town of Hartland in 1835, and to Somerset in 1866. He was married to Fannie Mead, daughter of Lewis Mead, in 1855. George H. Bradley was President of the Niagara and Orleans Mutual Insurance Company, from the time of its organization until his death, February 5, 1902, twenty-four years. He was a successful farmer and fruit grower. He owned a very productive farm of 220 acres, on the Lake Road, three or four miles west of Somerset Village. He was one of Somerset's most respected and beloved citizens.

FIRST EVENTS.

Joseph S. Bailey opened and kept the first tavern in the town, in 1817, at what has been, and is now, called "Bailey's Corners," one and one-half miles east of Somerset Village. The first wedding, in what is now the Town of Somerset, occurred in 1817, when John Sherwood married Miss Rebecca Mead. The first birth in town was that of Delilah Fitts, daughter of Jacob Fitts and wife, in 1821. The first death in town was that of Philip Fitts, who was drafted in 1813, served with his regiment until taken sick; was sent home, and died in 1814, and was buried on his farm, which is now owned by Louis M. Bateman. No other person was buried near his grave as, not long after, a short distance east of Somerset Corners, a plot of ground was laid out for burial purposes. The first person buried there was a Mr. Amsbrey.

JAMES E. MATHEWS THE FIRST POSTMASTER.

About 1820 James E. Mathews, who was a settler previous to that time, put up the first frame building erected in the town, at what is now Somerset Village, and opened a general store, which he continued to operate nearly fifty years, and the building is still on the same spot, but used for other purposes. Previous to 1825 mail was received, if any, by sending for it through some neighbor who was going to Buffalo, Rochester or Batavia, but about that year Mr. Mathews was appointed the first Postmaster in the town, and retained the office for over thirty years. In 1825 Mr. Mathews married Ellen C. Reynolds, daughter of Capt. John Reynolds, a farmer and merchant at Hartland, New York, and bought a lot in the center of what is now the Village of Somerset, and on it builded the first frame dwelling house in the town, and it still remains, with other additions, a portion of what is now the "old homestead," and is occupied by the last remaining member of the family living in Somerset. Mrs. Sarah Mathews Haight.

SOME MORE "FIRST THINGS."

The first log house was built by Jacob Fitts, the first settler, in June, 1810, on the farm now owned by his grandson, John Fitts.

The first road marked out is the one running east and west through the Village of Somerset.

The first bridge was built, in 1822, across Fish Creek, three-quarters of a mile north of the Corners.

In the fall of 1810 Jacob Fitts sowed three bushels of wheat on a patch of ground he had cleared during the summer, which was the first ground cleared, and first wheat sowed in this town.

On the first day of April, 1823, the first town meeting was held at the house of Silas Mead. The first frame barn in town was built for Silas Mead, in 1819.

The first resident physician was Dr. Asa B. Brown, who settled at the Corners in 1826. Since then many others have come and gone, but at present there are two in town, Dr. John B. Higgs and Dr. W. G. Sprague.

In 1817 the first school was organized, in a small log school house that stood one and a half miles west of the Corners, with Masten Sherwood as teacher.

THE FIRST CHURCH.

About this time the subject of religion began to take hold of the minds of the people to such an extent that there was a desire for the building of a house to hold meetings. The Baptist Church of Somerset was the first known as a Baptist Church on January 23, 1820. It was formally recognized by an ecclesiastical council, which was held at the residence of James Stevens, of what was then known as Hartland. For three and a half years after its recognition by the council as a society it met from house to house, frequently visited by a Baptist missionary, who preached from place to place. In September, 1823, Elder Jehial Wisner received, and accepted, a call to become pastor, and his labors were blessed by many being added to the church.

In 1832 the necessity of a suitable place of worship was felt by the church and community, and the Holland Land Company gave the avails of fifty acres of land, and the rest of the amount was raised by subscription, for the erection of a substantial brick church, and, in 1833, the church was built, and was the first brick building in the town. It became a strong society, ministered to by several talented pastors, but in 1845, owing to another Baptist Church and society being formed at West Somerset and to deaths and removals, after the close of the pastorate of Rev. Samuel Smith, in 1871, the church was closed, and in a few years after was sold, to be used for other purposes.

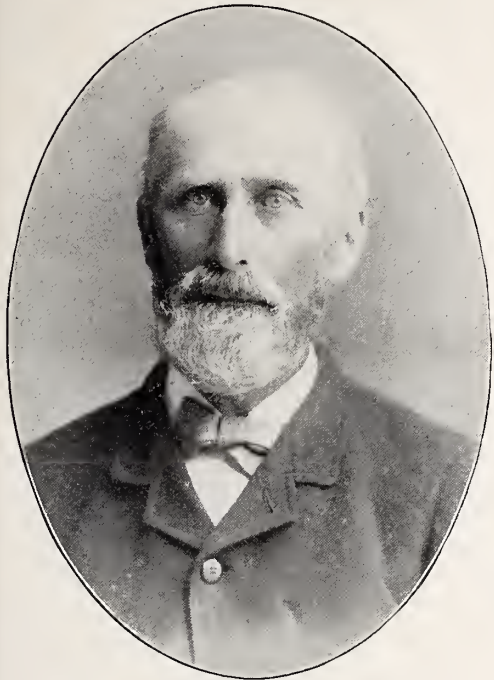
QUAKER CHURCH.

The Society of Friends, or Quakers, was organized in this town, in 1821, with twenty members, and for about fifteen years their meetings were held at private log houses within the bounds of the society. Mrs. Miriam Haight Winslow was the first settled preacher. She died in 1828, and was followed, as preacher, by David Gardner, father of the late Ira Gardner, of Somerset, and grandfather of Fred D. Gardner, a farmer, now living on the "old homestead," and also of Amos H. Gardner, now a resident of Lockport, New York, and Clerk of the Sheriff of this County. David Haight, brother of Jacob S. Haight, of Somerset, followed David Gardner as settled preacher, and was the last one to occupy that position, as he, too, passed on "to the better land." In 1836 the society built a plain, neat, brick church, and continued to worship there for years, but, as one after another laid down their earthly cares and the children joined other denominations, the church doors were closed, and two years ago the building was torn down to give place to other interests.

METHODIST CHURCH.

The first class meeting in connection with the Methodist Episcopal Church was formed at the home of Silas Mead, two and one-half miles west of what is now the Village of Somerset, in 1827. For nearly two years the class meetings, as was also the public service, were held at Mr. Mead's house, and for about five years following, in the little log school house on Mr. Mead's farm.

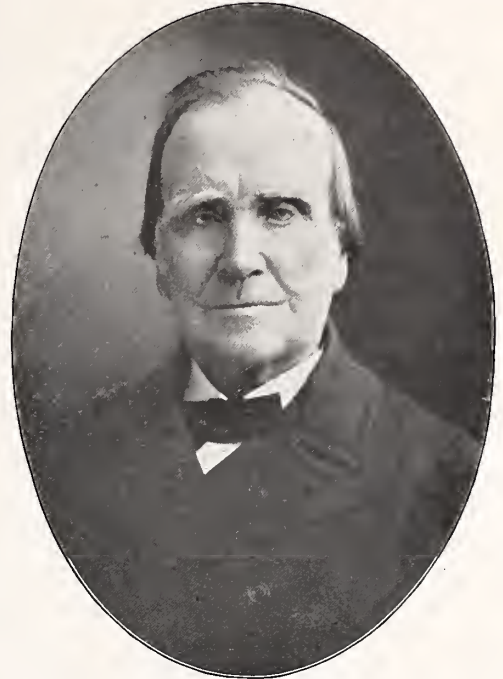
Rev. David Sheperdson began his ministrations, as first preacher in this part of what was then a large circuit, in 1817. The first quarterly meeting was held in Silas Mead's barn, in 1818. On July 4, 1831, at a meeting of the male members, according to notice, trustees were elected, and it was unanimously "resolved to build a meeting house to be thirty-two by forty feet on the ground." A lot for the same was



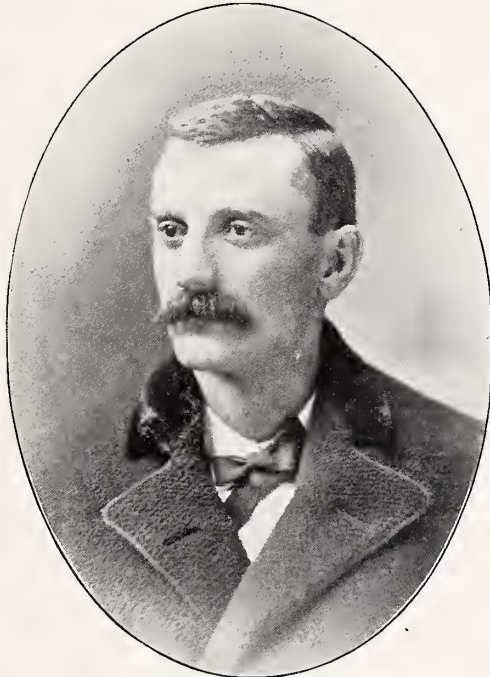
JOHN SHERWOOD.



GEORGE H. BRADLEY.



GUY C. HUMPHREY.



WM. A. SAWYER.



JOHN T. TOMPKINS, WHEATFIELD.



HOMER D. SHAVER, NEWFANE.



WILBER T. POOL, LEWISTON.

bought in 1831, and the church was built in 1839, at a cost of \$2,000 raised by subscription. In 1870 the society built a parsonage on the lot adjoining the church lot, at a cost of \$2,800. In 1878 the society sold the old church for \$300, and on June 21 of that year, laid the corner stone for a new edifice on the same site, in size forty by sixty-nine feet, at a cost of \$4,500, which they still occupy. W. L. Atwater was the architect and builder. On the 10th of November, 1832, a Sabbath School was organized which still exists with a membership of 220.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Presbyterian Church was organized January 26, 1824, at the house of Stephen Sherwood. On February 10, 1834, at a meeting of the then few members held at Dr. A. B. Brown's office, it was, "Resolved, That this Society be known by the title of the First Presbyterian Church and Society of Somerset, N. Y." The preaching, during this time up to 1837, had been by regularly ordained ministers, who occasionally passed through the county as supplies, but on the first Sabbath in July, 1837, Rev. Truman Baldwin became settled pastor on a salary of \$400 per year, and during his pastorate of four years 131 persons were received into the church as members. Rev. William C. Wisner, of Lockport, N. Y., a cousin of Mr. Mathews, assisted in revivals held at different times.

January 20, 1838, a Sabbath School was formed with Orman P. Wright as Superintendent. There were eighty-nine members in the school in 1839, and 131 in 1841, showing the increase of population in a few years.

Previous to Mr. Baldwin's coming as pastor the meetings had been held in James E. Mathews' store chamber. Afterwards the society worshipped in the "old brick school house," located on the north street. In 1840 a half acre lot was purchased of Isaac Starbuck for \$100 and on it was built the Presbyterian Church of today, costing \$2,000, raised by subscription, and it was dedicated October 1, 1840. In 1852, a parsonage was bought, costing \$750, and in 1871 it was remodeled at a cost of \$1,800. The late Mrs. Lucy Thayer bequeathed to the society \$1,000 for the erection of a chapel for the church, and in 1878 the society raised another \$1,000 for remodeling the church in connection with the chapel and the Presbyterians now have a pleasant, commodious place of worship.

SOME OF SOMERSET'S OLDEST CITIZENS.

The most of those mentioned in these records, who were the founders and builders of the town of Somerset, have long since gone to make up the inhabitants of that "better country whose maker and builder is God," but they have left behind them, to those who have taken their places, a heritage of noble manhood, and just and right principles in honorable and Christian living among their neighbors and friends.

A few, whose locks are whitened by the flight of years, who were among the early, though not the earliest, settlers still remain, and deserve honorable mention. Among them, Henry M. Frost, who settled here in 1835, and though having passed his eighty-sixth mile stone, and somewhat feeble, his memory is still strong, and his reminiscences of "pioneer days" are interesting and instructive, and he is greatly honored and respected by the many who know him. He has held several official position for a number of years, and still is, in connection with his son, S. W. Frost, the principal general merchant in town.

Hon. George M. Swain, who settled here in 1843, has served his town four terms as Supervisor and two as member

of Assembly, is still hale and hearty, and as a retired farmer and gentleman of ease is spending his sunset days happily and pleasantly in home-quiet, and social intercourse with his neighbors and friends. Long may he live!

Jacob S. Haight was born in Somerset, October 9, 1825, and though at present in feeble health, he is still active and interested in the affairs of his church and town, and is respected and revered by all who know him in his life-long home, and throughout the county.

Guy C. Humphrey, another of the honored men in town, settled here in 1831. His townsmen have also elected him to the office of Supervisor of their town for four terms, and for member of Assembly two terms. Though advanced in years he is still active in his farm life and always to be found on the side of right.

George W. Potter was born in Rensselaer County, N. Y., March 4, 1835, and moved with his parents to Orleans County when he was four years of age. At one time he owned a farm of 400 acres at Kent, formerly East Carlton, but he disposed of all his property in that town and came to Somerset in the spring of 1886 and purchased a large farm. He has been elected twice a member of the board of Supervisors, which office he now holds.

John Sherwood was born in Orleans County, October 27, 1834. He came with his people to Somerset the following spring, when his father purchased the farm of 164 acres where John Sherwood now resides. Mr. Sherwood was married to Mary E. Hess, November 29, 1865, and four children have been born to them.

Edwin E. Arnold was born in Vermont in 1826 and came with his parents to Niagara County and settled on a farm in the town of Somerset on Independence Day, 1831. He finished his education at Yates Academy, Orleans County, and taught school several terms. He was married in 1854 to Caroline M. Keeler. Mr. Arnold is a farmer by occupation and a zealous supporter of the Christian religion, being in faith a strict Calvinist.

Charles W. Wilcox, born in 1829, settled here in 1837. He is a gentleman of fine literary tastes and the many poetical articles written by him have been listened to, and read, by many with great pleasure and profit. He has for many years been a successful farmer, but on account of poor health sold his farm the present year and has retired to a quiet, village life. Hardy Fitts, a life-long resident, was born May 27, 1837. Gurdon Huntington, born in 1825, settled here in 1834. Lawton Pettit, born in 1816, came to Somerset in 1850.

THE YOUNGER MEN.

Mention should also be made of the younger men of today who are worthy of filling the places of those who so nobly toiled and suffered privations for their wilderness homes. Lewis A. Bradley, son of the late George W. Bradley, is owner of a fine farm on the Lake Road, owns and manages a large cold storage, and is a large handler of fruit at Barker, where he lives. Frank Bradley, brother of Lewis, also a farmer, resides on the "old home farm" on the Lake Road and is an extensive fruit grower and dealer in horses.

George B. Wood, son of the late George K. Wood, who came here from Otsego County in 1837, and grandson of Dr. Asa B. Brown, was born in Somerset in 1850 and has always resided here, an esteemed and respected citizen, and for the past seventeen years has been, and now is, one of the board of Assessors of the town.

Willis T. Mann is one of the most progressive fruit

growers of the Town of Somerset or of Niagara County. He was born January 13, 1857, in the Town of Somerset. His grandfather, Thompson Mann, settled in Somerset in 1835. His father, Oscar E. Mann, was prominent in public affairs in the town and Sheriff of the county for one term. Willis T. Mann was educated at the Lockport Union School and at Cornell University. He has given special attention to the scientific phases of fruit growing and the results of his investigations have been freely imparted to growers generally. He has prepared various papers and addresses, among them being the following: "The cause of the Fruit Failure," July, 1890; "Experiments in Fertilizing Orchards," published in report of Western New York Horticultural Society, 1898; "Report on Fruit Statistics and Marketing," read before the meeting of the New York State Fruit Growers' Association, January, 1902; "The Renovation of Barren Apple Orchards," published in "Country Life in America," March, 1902. Mr. Mann is at present vice president of the Niagara County Farmers' Club, member of committee of Plant Diseases of the Western New York Horticultural Society, chairman of committee on Fruit Statistics and Marketing, of New York State Fruit Growers' Association and the New York representatives of the general fruit committee of the American Pomological Society.

William A. Sawyer was born in Newfane, April 23, 1849. He was employed at the Lockport postoffice six years under Lyman A. Spalding and H. F. Cady. He married Sarah Curtis, of Somerset, in January, 1873 and has lived in the town since. He is a successful farmer, fruit grower and dealer in live stock.

S. Delos Davis, son of Charles Davis and at present living on the homestead situated on Lake Road, also a farmer, stock raiser, fruit dealer and owner of a fine dairy and now serving as postmaster at Barker.

William L. Atwater, a buyer of fruit and grain of all kinds, and owner and manager of "Somerset Elevator" at Barker, for a number of years has been "Justice of the Peace" and holds that office at the present time.

John and Michael O'Malley are merchants at Barker. Wallace Coates is owner and manager of a large farm in Somerset, and in the hardware business at Barker. Elgia A. Coates owns a large fruit farm and is a large handler of fruits of all kinds, dealing also in nursery stock, phosphates, etc.

S. W. Frost, of H. H. Frost & Son, general merchants, is esteemed for his business qualities and public spirit. Though still a young man he has served as Town Clerk for twenty-two years, which office he fills today, as well as that of postmaster of Somerset.

WHO WILL WRITE OF THE WIVES?

A whole volume of history might be written of the Town of Somerset, dating from the rising of the smoke from its first log cabin fireside to the present day, and we hope it may some time be done, but more especially do we wish that one, gifted for the work, would write the story of the life, incidents, trials, toils and sufferings of the wives and mothers of the pioneers and early settlers of this town, and every other town in the grand old County of Niagara. The women who fought the battles of the wilderness and conquered every foe. It would be of priceless worth to children, and children's children, of those heroic women who should not be forgotten, and the story would bring tears to the eyes of those unused to weep. Who will do this work?

Reminiscences of an Old Resident.

BY HON. GEORGE M. SWAIN.

[Hon. George M. Swain, upon hearing of the intention to publish this work, sent the following recollections, which will be highly appreciated.]

The east portion of the Town of Somerset was settled at a later date than the west, and a considerable portion of the land from the lake up four or five miles on each side of the Golden Hill Creek was settled by squatters who, although not criminals, were an ignorant, shiftless set of inhabitants, and this very naturally gave this section a bad name, or at least that portion of it situated near the creek. The rest of the land was settled by thrifty and industrious people.

This land settled by these squatters belonged to the heirs of Joseph Ellicott, who, when he surveyed this part of the Holland purchase made a selection of this land, thinking it would some day prove very valuable as a water power for milling and manufacturing purposes, the creek at that time being quite large. But as the surrounding land was cleared and the swamps drained it soon shrunk to an insignificant stream.

Probably the first land selected and reserved for individual ownership in our county, yes in all Western New York, was the tract, in the present Town of Somerset, which was formerly known as "Ellicott's Reserve." Joseph Ellicott being one of the surveyors of the Holland Land Company's purchase, and the first resident agent in Western New York, it was absolutely certain that whatever land he selected would subsequently be purchased by him, and it is a most interesting commentary on the expectations of the man, who when our county was first settled, was the best known man in all Western New York, that being familiar with all the land in the State west of the Genesee River, he then selected the site, for the reason that he expected the water power which could be developed from Golden Hill creek would make his "reserve" the greatest manufacturing center in the Genesee country. With the felling of the forests, Golden Hill Creek shrunk away so that today in seasons of draught its bed is perfectly dry.

Niagara and the Genesee Falls, to which as power producers Joseph Ellicott paid no attention, are running today in full force.

This creek at that time abounded in vast quantities of fish. Indeed, I have heard it related by people of much greater reliability than the fishermen of the present day, that when these fish ran up in the spring of the year they were thrown out in windrows, and that by putting the hand down into the water they could be felt and often times thrown out in this manner. Suffice it to say that the settlers had all they wished for, and took them away in wagon loads. These fish, a very little corn meal with a good whiskey basis, afforded these squatters all they seemed to desire. The latter portion of these nourishing ingredients could then be obtained at from twelve to fifteen cents per gallon.

The better and most intelligent of the settlers were very desirous of ridding themselves of these unpleasant and unprofitable incumbrances, but although the Ellicotts had taken steps by merely ordering them off occasionally to protect the land from the twenty year peaceable possession statute, yet no further action was taken until Pixley M. Humphrey, now still living at Olcott, purchased a good sized track and took a quit claim deed. He then began an action

of ejectment which was tried in the County Court with success.

Then some few of the better class purchased their land and the remainder eventually left. The farm now owned and occupied by Mr. Billings and part of Mr. Swain's farm on the Lake Road is what Mr. Humphrey was the purchaser of at that time.

A SINGULAR COINCIDENCE.

The following is one of those singular coincidents which can truthfully be called "stranger than fiction," and which, if used by a novelist, would be looked on as far fetched. Yet I can vouch for the truth of it in every particular.

One portion of the east part of the town was settled by a few families from Mexico, Oswego County, this State. Among them in the year 1830 was a family named Patch, consisting of a man and his wife and nine children, who took up a small farm from the Holland purchase. It being rather unhealthy at that time, the head of the family soon died of the prevailing fever.

A few years afterward another family from another part of the State named Wescot, moved in on the adjoining farm. The old resident, upon hearing the name of the new comer, made the remark that when she was a very little girl she had an older sister marry a man of that name, but that she had never heard of her since. She then sent her oldest boy to see if they could be of any assistance and at the same time to look at the woman and tell her how she looked. The boy soon returned and told his mother that the strange woman was quite tall and looked like her. She immediately went there and found that they were actually own sisters, neither having heard from the other in all this time and had no knowledge of one another's whereabouts. As any one would naturally suppose, there was great rejoicing and no sleep for either that night.

Many of the descendants of these two pioneer women are scattered about the county; two of them (which were of the nine children, now elderly women) still reside in the town. They are both well to do and are enjoying the fruits of their hard experience in this beautiful and fruitful country, in contrast with the then wilderness which rendered their life so hard at that time as pioneers.

I could not do justice to this article and leave unmentioned one who at such a time of hardship rendered so much assistance to those in adversity and with less of this world's goods than himself. Samuel Coleman, one of the oldest of these pioneers, was never called upon in vain for assistance; indeed it was seldom he waited for such a call, for he made it his particular occupation to see to it that none of his immediate neighbors needed such assistance, and there are still those living who remember with gratitude his great kindness and benovolence to all around him. His many descendants have greater reason to be proud of such an ancestor than if he had been the occupant of some high and exalted position.

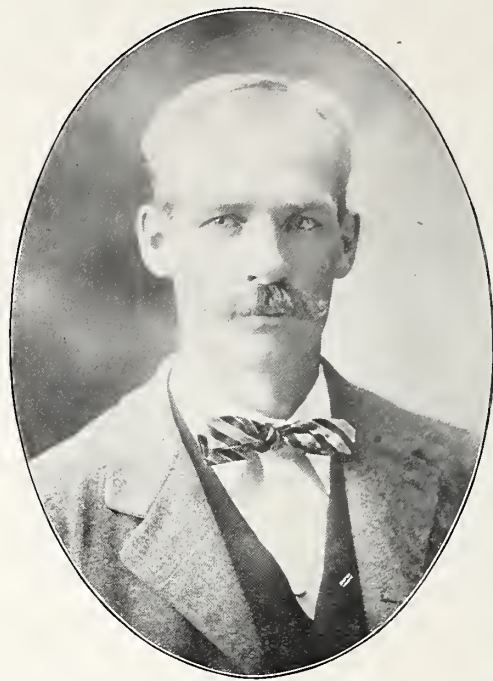
Town of Wheatfield.

BY GEORGE H. LOVELAND.



WHEATFIELD is in the southwestern part of Niagara County, bounded on the north by the Towns of Lewiston and Cambria, on the east by Pendleton, on the south by the City of North Tonawanda and Niagara River, and on the west by the Town of Niagara. The surface of the town

is generally level; the soil is mostly a heavy clay, although a part is black muck, and the southern part is light chestnut soil. The principal streams are Sawyer's Creek, Bull Creek and Cayuga Creek. Sawyer's Creek rises in the center of town, flows southeast, and empties into Tonawanda Creek at Martinsville. Bull Creek rises in Cambria, flows southwest through Pendleton and Wheatfield, and empties into



GEORGE H. LOVELAND.

Sawyer's at Martinsville. Cayuga Creek rises in the northern part of town, flows southwest, and empties into the Niagara River at La Salle.

Aside from the numerous creeks, a system of ditches were dug in the early sixties, by which the low lands of the town are very thoroughly drained. About the only inconvenience suffered from floods is in the spring of the year on account of the dam across Tonawanda Creek, at Tonawanda, for the purpose of raising the level of the canal, which dam raised the level of our creeks about four feet, thus causing us no little inconvenience and considerable loss in times of heavy rains and when snow is going off in spring.

FARM PRODUCTS.

The town derives its name from being so well adapted to the raising of wheat, the main product in the early years of the history of the town. Although wheat is still raised quite extensively, other crops have taken the place of it to a great extent. Potatoes, berries and all kinds of garden vegetables are grown on the light lands of the south and center, and milk is the main product where the inhabitants are within reach of a shipping station.

EARLY HISTORY.

Wheatfield was erected from the Town of Niagara, May 12, 1836. The first town meeting was held on June 6 of that year, in the school house of District No. 7, on the north line of the town. N. M. Ward was elected Supervisor, and Edwin Cook, Town Clerk; Assessors, Isaac H. Smith, James Sweeney, Hiram Parks; Justices of the Peace, L. B. Warden, John Sweeney; Commissioners of Highways, Elias Parks, Matthew Gray; Collector, Stewart Milliman; Overseer of the Poor, William Towsley; Constables, Stewart Milliman, Daniel C. Jacobs, Calvin T. Champlin, Seth F. Roberts; Commissioners of Schools, Isaac I. Young, James Sweeney, Loyal E. Edwards.

In the spring of 1845 it was voted that the town pay a

bounty of twelve shillings for wild cat scalps and five dollars for wolves' heads.

PIONEER SETTLEMENT.

In this sketch I shall take the liberty of making copious extracts from the history of Niagara County, published in 1878, which is the best record of the Town of Wheatfield available, incorporating therewith whatever I have learned of the history of the town, by tradition or experience, in a lifetime spent within its borders.

Harvey Miller came from Rochester, in 1824, and settled on the Lockport and Niagara Falls road, in the northern part of the town, purchasing 100 acres of the Holland Company, at five dollars per acre, on contract, advancing, as was customary, twenty-five dollars for an "article." His equipment for beginning were two yoke of steers and axe and scant provisions and lodgings. The first winter he lived in Wheatfield, with the assistance of a young man, he chopped twenty-five acres, which he cleared in the spring for suitable crops. During the summer he cleared the balance to sow eighteen acres of winter wheat. The piece produced 800 bushels, which he sold to other settlers as they came in at seventy-five cents per bushel, threshing it on a split log floor during the winter, assisted by his young wife in cleaning it. As a Road Commissioner he directed the opening of all the first roads in the town.

SHAWNEE.

Shawnee was named by Timothy Shaw, who in connection with Volney Spalding, established a store and ashery in 1828. The hamlet contains a dry goods and grocery store, blacksmith and wagon shop and a small, neatly constructed Methodist Episcopal Church, erected in 1863. The earliest preaching was of that denomination, by the Rev. Messrs. Hoag and Cole. The first religious organization was perfected by the Rev. Reuben Winchell. The Shawnee Baptist Church was instituted in the barn of Harvey Miller, July 2, 1830. Removal of members and influx of a prevailing Lutheran population has given the latter the place of the former Baptist connection. The land for the church building was donated by Isaac Carl in 1847, and the church erected the same year.

John Grey located about a mile south of Shawnee in 1825, coming from Livingston County. He purchased of the Holland Company eighty-five acres at five dollars per acre.

GERMAN NEIGHBORHOOD.

A population of industrious Prussians now own the largest portion of the farming territory of the town. The character of a productive agricultural region, redeemed from swamps and marshes, is due to them.

Settlements in the different localities were simultaneous. In 1843 Carl Sack, Erdman Wurl and Fred Grasskopf purchased of William Vandewrote 400 acres at fifteen dollars per acre, on the Tonawanda Creek, in the southeast corner of the town, at Martinsville. Lutheran religious antecedents caused the adoption of this name by disciples of Martin Luther.

The original purchase was divided into small lots or three acres and upward, as others were able to purchase, to provide for the location of thirty families the first season. They erected ten log houses in the autumn, each of which was occupied by three or four families during the winter and until joint efforts relieved the immigrants by building other homes. The families remained in Buffalo until the first houses were built, obtaining the best accommodations they could find.

The first church building was erected in 1846. The second church was built in 1861.

NEW BERGHOLTZ.

New Bergholtz was settled in 1843 by a German Lutheran congregation which emigrated from Prussia. It is named after the large Village of Bergholtz, in Germany, from which a great number of the families of this congregation came. Frederick Moll, John Williams and John Sy, as trustees, purchased the land for an association, styled the "Lutheran Evangelical," consisting of 120 members.

The trustees caused a map to be made by W. S. Hains, designating 121 village lots, located upon parallel and diagonal streets of convenient width and an ample public square. By a general deed, executed by the trustees October 12, 1843, they convey to Augustus Manske and 118 others a lot each of one acre. The village has a present population of 100 families.

A large barn that had been previously built, it is thought to accommodate lumber teams, was used to shelter the first population, in which they were stowed until houses could be built. In four weeks a sufficient number of houses were erected to take four or five families in one house, relieving them from the more uncomfortable condition in the overcrowded store house.

Washington Hunt presented the community with an ox team to aid them in building, the first they possessed in the country. The erection of log dwellings was continued until one was during the first season placed upon nearly every lot that had been deeded.

The community had connected with them the necessary mechanics, a carpenter and joiner, a blacksmith, mason, tailor, shoemaker and cabinet maker. The sale of wood for three to five dollars per cord at Tonawanda, Buffalo and Niagara Falls, mostly transported by one-horse teams, and the sale of ship timber and staves, were important aids to furnish means of living and clearing the land. Potatoes and garden vegetables were the chief product for the first six or seven years.

John Salnigree was a member of the community first locating, bringing with him a capital of \$20,000. He aided many of his less fortunate brethren who were industrious and without means. He died in January, 1871, aged sixty-nine years.

Bergholtz is famous for the excellence of its cooked goose, and at the close of many political campaigns the leading politicians of the County repair thither for their last meeting and to regale themselves with Bergholtz hospitality.

SUPERVISORS.

The following Supervisors have served since the organization of the town: 1836, N. M. Ward; 1837, Benjamin McNitt; 1838, N. M. Ward; 1839, William Vandervoort; 1840, John Sweeney; 1842, Isaac L. Young; 1843, N. M. Ward; 1844-45, Lewis S. Payne; 1846, N. M. Ward; 1847-48, L. S. Payne; 1849, Sylvester McNitt; 1850, L. S. Payne; 1851, Seth F. Roberts; 1852, Sylvester McNitt; 1853-54, Peter Greiner; 1855, Joseph Hawbecker; 1856-57, George W. Sherman; 1858, N. M. Ward; 1859-61, L. S. Payne; 1862, Peneuel Schmeck; 1863-66, George W. Sherman; 1867, H. H. Griffin; 1868, James Carney; 1869, H. H. Griffin; 1870, Edward A. Milliman; 1871-73, Joseph D. Loveland; 1874-75, Thomas C. Collins; 1876, L. S. Payne; 1877-78, Christian Fritz; 1879-81, Charles Kandt; 1882, Daniel Sy; 1883, C. F. Goerss; 1884-88, Peter Heim; 1889-94, Chauncey Wicher-man; 1895-96, William Tompkins; 1897-98, Herman Rosebrook; 1899-1902, George C. Toellner.

SEPARATION OF NORTH TONAWANDA.

In May, 1865, the Village of North Tonawanda was incorporated in the southwest part of the town. In 1892 the village began proceedings to enlarge its borders, and eventually included to a very large extent the hamlets of Gratiwick and Martinsville and all the intervening land between a territory about three and one-half by four miles square.

In 1897 the Village of North Tonawanda, being tired of the infant clothes of villagehood, took upon itself the more dignified robe of cityhood, and today is one of the three growing and enterprising cities of Niagara County.

THE LAND BOOM.

At about this time began the great real estate boom of Western New York, extending throughout the length of Niagara River and back east from it into the farming country from three to six or eight, and in some instances as far as ten miles, increasing the price of farming land from \$80 to \$100 per acre to from \$300 to \$800 per acre, and in some instances, in the most desirable localities, to even as high as \$1,500 and \$2,000 per acre. What was the result of this uncalled for and unnatural land boom? The result was what it must always come to, sooner or later, the bottom fell out, prices tumbled, sales stopped, and those who found themselves loaded with land at these enormous prices awoke to the fact that they were financially ruined, although it is a fact that many a comparatively poor farmer sold his farm for from five to ten times its real value, thereby making himself immensely rich. But it is a most deplorable fact that nine out of every ten of these, instead of investing their new found riches in some safe place, reinvested in this fascinating land boom, and in the end found themselves poorer than when they began.

There were yet a few others, who, when offered from twelve to fifteen times the original value of their land, would not sell, but held for higher prices, who, when the bottom fell out, found themselves with their farms still, but their hopes of riches gone, their taxes greatly increased and discouragement and ruin staring them in the face.

No where during the height of this "boom" was the enthusiasm at a higher pitch, nor with its downfall was its results more seriously felt, than in the Town of Wheatfield and the Village of North Tonawanda.

In summing up the results of this wonderful land "boom" I am free to say that, taken as a whole, it was far more of a detriment than a blessing to the inhabitants of the Town of Wheatfield and North Tonawanda.

ST. JOHNSBURG.

St. Johnsbury is an offspring of Bergholtz. The commodious brick church was built in 1846, now accommodates a congregation of seventy-five families. A school attached has an average attendance of seventy-five to eighty. There are two saloons, a general store and blacksmith, wagon and harness shops. Though separation has taken place to form another neighborhood, the distinction is but slight. Churches, school and customs are sustained upon the same principle as at Bergholtz.

NEW WALMORE.

New Walmore is named after a village in Prussia, from which the early settlers emigrated, in 1843. Possessed of the requisite means to make an independent purchase and to locate on larger farms, they chose the above location, in the northwest corner of the town, buying from the earlier settlers from Pennsylvania, who had made considerable improvement. The last purchasers, from twenty to twenty-five in number, located at the same time on farms, varying

from fifty to 200 acres. Situated on somewhat higher land, and commencing with the advantage of improvements, the successful growing of wheat has made a prosperous community and a wealthy farming district of the County. The location is adapted to the growing of apples, but not peaches. The people of the neighborhood, in 1853, erected a brick Lutheran Church.

SOME SKETCHES OF WHEATFIELD CITIZENS.

Hermon A. Barnum was born, in 1837, in the Town of Wheatfield, where he has resided ever since. He conducts one of the best farms in the town, containing some of the finest farm buildings. He helped his father clear the forest and plowed the virgin soil. He remembers the good old days of log cabins, corduroy roads, flails, scythes, cradles, spinning wheels, quill pens, well sweeps, rain troughs, tallow candles, etc. In 1859 he married Carrie Preisch, of the Town of Lockport. Mr. and Mrs. Barnum had ten children, nine of whom are living. Six of them have taught in the public schools, one son graduated from the University of Rochester, and a daughter from Cornell. Mr. Barnum is a total abstainer from tea, coffee, whiskey and tobacco, to which he attributes his excellent health.

In 1859 Simpson Moyer settled upon the farm of 150 acres, which he now owns, on the Shawnee Road. At that time there were but three acres cleared upon it. Mr. Moyer is one of the leading Democrats of the town, and has held the town offices of Collector, Auditor and Justice of the Peace. He is hale and hearty at the age of seventy, and performs his share of the daily labor of a prosperous farmer.

Daniel Treichler came from Pennsylvania and settled on the Ward Road, a half mile south of the Lockport and Falls Road, in 1833, in the midst of a dense forest, and reared a large and prosperous family. In 1847 his son, John Treichler, bought a farm on the Shawnee Road, a half mile south of Shawnee. It contained 150 acres, but little of it was cleared. At that time there was no road south to Sawyer's Creek, and it was said that one could never be built on account of the swampy condition of the soil, water standing over the land all the year round. But owing to clear, excellent system of drainage, this track of worse than useless swamp, now contains some of the best farms in the town; the Shawnee Road has been extended to the creek, and is one of the best in the town. Mr. Treichler lived to see his farm grow to be one of the finest and most productive in Western New York. He died five years ago, at the age of eighty-three. Two of his sons, Henry M. and T. Elmer Treichler, now own and reside on the farm, and have one of the largest milk producing farms in Niagara County. Henry M. Treichler is Justice of the Peace and Vice President of the Erie and Niagara County Farmers' Insurance Association.

In 1848 Joseph Loveland purchased a farm lot of 150 acres in the eastern part of the town, on the Town Line Road, at a cost of \$10 per acre. But twenty acres were cleared and there were no buildings except a small log house. He, together with his son, Joseph D., transformed this wilderness into one of the best stock and grain farms in the county. He subsequently purchased and owned this farm until his death, at the early age of forty-four years, on November 25, 1881. He was Supervisor of the town in 1874 and 1875, and Member of Assembly in 1878, being elected to both offices on the Democratic ticket. He left a wife and five small children. She and the eldest son, George H. Loveland, and his family, still reside on the old homestead.

Samuel Hill came from Onondaga County, with his fam-

ily, in 1844. He raised a large family, many of whom are settled in homes and business in this vicinity. He died in 1876, aged sixty-seven years. His wife, with her son and daughter, still reside on the old homestead, near Beach Ridge postoffice, at the advanced age of eighty-two years.

Charles W. Ellis came out from Lockport, and in 1844 purchased a farm of 100 acres, nearly all timbered, at the west end of Beach Ridge. He cleared and developed it into a valuable farm. He resided here until about ten years ago, when he sold his farm for \$11,000 and moved back to Lockport, where he still lives, at the advanced age of eighty-six years.

Charles and William Deglow came from Germany with their people, and settled on the Town Line Road, in 1846. They purchased land, cleared it and have become respected and prosperous farmers.

Chauncey Wichterman came into town from Royalton, locating at Shawnee. He held the office of Justice of the Peace for a number of years, and in 1889 he was elected Supervisor, which office he continued to hold for six successive terms, retiring from the field of his own free will.

George C. Toellner has lived in town thirty-seven years and owns a valuable farm on Sawyer's Creek, just west of Nash Road, of seventy acres. He makes a specialty of strawberry raising, in connection with general farming. He was Overseer of the Poor three terms, and Commissioner of Highways four terms. In 1899 he was elected Supervisor and re-elected in 1901.

David Hunt Cook was born in the Town of Wheatfield, in 1831. His parents came to the County in February, 1828, and lived near Niagara Falls for two years. Soon after the town of Wheatfield was taken from Niagara, where he was then living. His father, Edwin Cook, was the first Town Clerk of Wheatfield.

John T. Tompkins was born in the Town of Niagara, May 25, 1837, and has lived on the Tompkins homestead, in Wheatfield, where he now resides, since 1842.

John Miller, blacksmith by trade, came from Scotland and settled at Shawnee, in 1850, and worked at his trade here for many years, accumulating quite a nice property. His wife died a few years ago, but he still lives at the old home, in excellent health, aged eighty-five years. His daughter, Mrs. William Watt, lives close by and attends to his wants. He has one other daughter, in Dakota, and one son, Thomas Miller, at North Tonawanda.

Town of Wilson.

BY WILLIAM H. HOLMES.



THE Town of Wilson, with its present boundaries, has existed since 1824. In April, 1818, the Town of Wilson was formed, by a special act of the State Legislature, from the east part of Porter, the east boundary being the Eighteen-Mile Creek and the west the road, now in the center of the town, still known as the Town Line Road. (There seems to be some uncertainty as to the exact location of the east line, and some difference of opinion as to the west line, whether as above stated or as it now is.) In 1821 Niagara County, as it now is, was formed, and in 1824 Newfane was taken partly from the east part of Wilson, and the present boundaries of the Town of Wilson were fixed. The farm on the Lake Road, just east of Hopkins Creek, where the great grandfather of the writer settled about 1816, has since that time been in two counties, both called Niagara, but one with County

seat at Buffalo and one with same at Lockport, and in three towns, Porter, Wilson and Newfane.

FIRST TOWN MEETING.

The first town meeting in the Town of Wilson was held in April, 1819, at the house of David Porter, since known as the James M. Newman place, now owned by Herbert Dailey. Reuben Wilson, in whose honor the town was named, and who was already a Justice of the Peace, presided, and was elected Supervisor of the new town. David Burgess, John Carter and Henry Lockwood were at the same time elected Assessors; Orinal Hartwell, Collector; Abner Crossman and Burgoyne Kemp, Overseers of the Poor; James McKinney, Joshua Williams and John Carter, Commissioners of Highways.

EARLY SETTLERS.

There were a few settlers in what is now Wilson before the War of 1812. It is claimed that the first one was named Henry Lockwood; that he came here from Canada in 1808, and settled on what has of late years been known as the John S. Cudaback farm, on the Lake Road, but went back to Canada at the outbreak of the war and never returned.

Stephen Sheldon, from Jefferson County, settled near where Wilson Village now is, in 1809, and in 1810 Reuben Wilson, who gave the town his name, and was for many years its most prominent citizen, came from near Toronto, Canada, with two other men, he and one of them bringing families with them. They came in two small boats, following the shore around the head of the lake, and landed at the mouth of the Twelve-Mile Creek, that distance east from the mouth of Niagara River. Their boats were drawn upon land, turned bottom side up, and raised upon stakes for shelter, while all out doors was used for a kitchen.

WILSON IN THE WAR OF 1812.

These first settlers, nearly all of whom had located near the lake shore, were exposed to great dangers and hardships during the War of 1812. The British and Indians made raids from Fort Niagara down the southern shore of the lake. Most of the families fled, but some were captured. Among them was Enoch Pease, then a young man, or boy, but he was held only a short time. Another was a son of Stephen Sheldon, who was taken to Quebec, and died there on a prison ship. Every house from the Niagara River to the Eighteen-Mile Creek was burned, except one belonging to Reuben Wilson—Squire Wilson, as he was always called—situated on the Lake Road, east, on what was afterwards the Dr. Sayer farm. This was spared because Mrs. Wilson remained at home and treated the British officers courteously and hospitably. Mr. Wilson was taken to Fort Niagara and held there a prisoner about ten days.

WILSON'S SUPERVISORS.

Many of the settlers who fled never returned, but Squire Wilson remained, and he and his family have occupied a large place in Wilson history for many years, and even to the present time. He had been Supervisor, as well as Justice of the Peace, in Porter, and was not only the first Supervisor elected in the Town of Wilson, but served in this capacity about twelve years. His successors in this position have been John Carter, Luther Wilson, Robert L. McChesney, Samuel R. Merwin, Alexander Pettit, Russell Robinson, Reuben F. Wilson, Curtis Pettit, Orsemus Ferris, Harvey N. Johnson, Ralph Stockwell, Tunis Outwater, David O. Jeffrey, Benjamin Farley, Richard C. Holmes, William Hamblin, Benjamin Dearborn, Edward Barker, Stephen C.

Wakeman, A. Douglass Pease, Martin S. Gifford, Oscar S. McChesney, Samuel H. Pettit, William H. Holmes, Justis W. Hackett and Alanson C. Bigalow.

LUTHER WILSON.

The first white child born in this town was a son of Reuben Wilson, named Orrin. He lived in town to a good old age. The first marriage in town was that of the oldest son of Reuben Wilson—Luther—to Sarah Stevens. Luther Wilson was even more prominently identified with the business enterprises of the town than was his father. He started the Village of Wilson by having a part of his land laid off into streets and village lots. He was for years the leading merchant and produce dealer in the town; built and carried on a sawmill and a grist mill; first made a harbor at the mouth of Twelve-Mile Creek; built quite a number of ships; was the largest contributor to the fund to build an Academy in town; donated the land for Greenwood Cemetery; and last, but not least, at the age of seventy he sought and found the Saviour, that his faithful wife had served so long, and fully identified himself with the Christian work of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The records show that by 1820 the number of inhabitants had increased to 680, though it is recorded that the vote cast for Governor in 1821 was only thirty-two; Dewitt Clinton, twenty-four; Daniel D. Tompkins, eight.

ROSTER OF THE PIONEERS.

The family names of quite a number of these pioneers are still, or have recently been, familiar in town. Among those that we have been able to learn are: James Cole, came here in 1818; George Ash, 1810; Stephen Sheldon, 1809; Adam Stevens, 1815; Erastus Barnard, 1810; David Porter, 1813; James Meeker, 1815; Stephen, John and David Tower, 1818; Richard and William Knowles, 1815; Henry Barber, 1815; Nathan Pratt, 1815; John Carter, 1815; Abram Hutchings, 1816; John Haze, 1817; Nathan Sherwood, 1817; John Cudaback, 1813; Benjamin Douglass, 1817; Joshua Williams, Joseph Aiken, Abner Crossman, Moses Barber, Henry Lockwood, David Burgess, Lemuel Bradley, Burgoyne Kemp, Hul and David Bixby, Elisha Stevens, John U. Pease, the McChesney brothers (Robert L., "The Squire," and Henry S., "The Doctor,") and Col. E. H. Parmelee, who served under Gen. Scott at Lundy's Lane.

The first to come here of any of the present residents are believed to be John and William O. Pettit, who came here with their widowed mother and other members of the family in 1832. John Holmes came before 1818, and his son, Daniel, and son-in-law, Peter Crosby, during that year. Daniel Holmes was in politics a Whig, while the town, then and for many years, was a Democratic stronghold, but was elected Town Clerk at the first town meeting. It is an interesting circumstance that the present Town Clerk, Henry L. Perrigs, is his great grandson. Daniel Holmes was for many years Commissioner of Deeds, and took the acknowledgements of many of the old conveyances of land.

BEGINNING OF THE POSTAL SERVICE.

The first postoffice was established in town in 1824. Reuben Wilson was Postmaster, and his son Luther, Deputy. Daniel Holmes was the first mail carrier, having a route from Olcott to Youngstown, weekly. Later it extended east to Hartland, on the Ridge. His oldest son, Richard C., began carrying this mail on horseback in 1825, being then twelve years old. But Daniel Holmes is chiefly remembered as a Christian.

FIRST RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

Previous to 1818 the only religious services in town had been week day meetings, held by a Methodist Episcopal preacher, at long intervals, in private houses. In January, 1819, Rev. David M. Smith, pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Lewiston, came to the house of John Holmes, on the east bank of Hopkins Creek, then in the Town of Wilson, and there organized a Presbyterian Church, consisting of John Holmes and Anna, his wife; Daniel Holmes and Sally, his wife; Peter Crosby and Ruth, his wife. When the ice broke up in the creek that spring Daniel Holmes was grieved to see so many spending the Sabbath in fishing, and gave notice that there would be religious services the next Sunday in the school house just built, perhaps a mile this side of Olcott. A goodly number attended this service. He took charge of it, leading in prayer and singing and reading a printed sermon. These services, thus led by Daniel Holmes when no minister was present, were kept up regularly from that time on, and additions were soon made to the little church. During the summer these services were held in Abner Crossman's new barn. They were then moved to a new school house on the Squire Wilson place, on the Lake Road, a mile east of the village; then to a school house on the corner of Town Line Road and Youngstown Road; still later to a school house south of where the depot now is, and then to one just south of "Hosmer's Corners," where there was talk of building a church, and where some thought the village of the town would be. For about ten years this church had but one minister, and he, Rev. Ebenezer Everett, came in 1823 and staid one or two years. Daniel Holmes started a Sunday school in connection with this church in 1820. He also, for years, had a school each Sunday in the school house on Lake Road, two or three miles west of the village. His son, Richard C., had much the same spirit, and later used often to go miles from home on Sabbath afternoons to hold Sunday schools at places distant from any church.

THE HOG AS AN ARGUMENT.

Daniel Holmes was much interested in temperance and the anti-slavery cause, when these movements were not popular. On one occasion an anti-slavery meeting was being held in the Presbyterian Church, and some parties not in sympathy with it caught a large pig, running, as was the custom then, in the road, and put it into the church. It walked up the aisle and lay down in front of the pulpit. The speaker, taking the pulpit Bible in his hands, said, "Here is our argument," and (pointing to the hog) "there is theirs."

ROADS OF YE OLDEN TIMES.

The first road in town was along the lake shore. There was at a very early day a road from the ridge along the Eighteen-Mile Creek to the lake. But all the country between Niagara River and the Eighteen-Mile Creek, from the lake to the ridge, was a trackless forest. It is related that when one of the daughters of John Holmes was to be married the minister from Lewiston was engaged to perform the ceremony. He started down the ridge on horseback to fulfill his engagement, but, thinking to greatly shorten his journey, he struck off into the woods when about south of his destination, but got lost in the woods and got out to the lake shore about noon the next day, when he found he had lost his job, for late in the evening before Squire Wilson had been sent for and performed the service.

The Youngstown road, from Youngstown to Van Horn's, was surveyed in 1816; the town line road from the lake to the ridge the same year, and the Slash road, now



LAKE ISLAND PARK, WILSON, NEW YORK.

called Maple Street, two or three years later. This latter was slashed—the trees all cut and left as they fell till dry enough to burn—by Daniel Holmes by contract. Other roads were laid out from time to time, usually taking their names from some nearby settler.

LAST OF WILD ANIMALS.

Wild animals were never very numerous here after the advent of the white man. But wolves, bears and deer were found here. At the first town meeting a bounty of five dollars was voted to be paid for every wolf killed in town. It is claimed that the last female wolf, with her cubs, was killed in the winter of 1837-8 by Frank Brown, a boy seventeen or eighteen years of age, in a hollow tree near the Ransomville and Lockport road, and her male companion by a man named Miller the next winter near the Daniels road.

A bear was frequently reported to have been seen in the south part of the town since the memory of the writer. Most of the people laughed at such reports, but it is claimed that bruin was finally killed about 1860. The writer remembers seeing, when a boy, a party of hunters chasing a deer across the Lake Road farms, about three miles west of the village. He was killed near the lake shore, west of the harbor.

WILSON HARBOR IMPROVEMENT.

In 1846 Luther Wilson, having obtained permission from the Secretary of War, built a pier out into the lake about 200 feet, from each side of the mouth of Twelve-Mile Creek, and from that time on for many years he continued to improve the harbor by extending the piers and dredging out the channel. The dredging was done by horse power, the horses walking around on the board in a circle like an old-fashioned horse power for threshing. In 1867 a company was formed, called "The Wilson Harbor Company," and a

contract was made with the Wilsons, that if certain things were done by this company, by a certain time, the harbor and so much adjoining land was to be turned over to this company in exchange for a certain amount of its stock. The conditions were found impossible of fulfillment, and after the neighboring farmers had subscribed and paid and the company expended several thousand dollars, the company went down and the ownership of the premises remained as before. Since that time Congress has made several appropriations for the improvement of the harbor, with which the piers have been largely rebuilt and extended, and the channel several times cleaned out and deepened with a steam dredge.

GRAIN AND LUMBER MARKETS.

Luther Wilson built a store house at the harbor in 1846 and commenced buying grain there. Morgan Johnson also bought produce there for years. Up to the time the railroad was built through town quite large quantities of grain and fruit were brought there each year and shipped in vessels to Oswego. Beginning in about 1868, and lasting till the railroad came into use, two Boston firms bought apples at the harbor each year, some years taking in 12,000 or 13,000 barrels there. Since the coming of the railroad the business there has been mostly confined to the receipt of Canada lumber and the calling of excursion steamers. In the early spring of 1878 the shore end of the west pier was carried away, and a bar of sand and gravel quickly formed across the mouth of the creek. A small vessel that had wintered in the harbor was got out with much difficulty. Thousands of loads of excellent gravel were got from this bar for the village streets and nearby roads. The Government soon replaced the pier. Since 1846 this has been a port of entry and a customs officer has been stationed here

during the season of navigation. The first one was Abram Vosburgh. A few years ago his grandson, Miles S. Vosburgh, held the same position.

SHIP BUILDING.

Luther Wilson, at an early age, commenced building ships at the harbor, and built quite a number, the forests about furnishing excellent timber for the purpose. Some of them, like the "Geraldine," a three-master, were as large as could then pass through the Welland Canal, while others, like the "R. F. Wilson," used here for years in the grain carrying trade, had a capacity of about 3,000 bushels of wheat. A sad accident occurred at the launching of one of these vessels. By some mistake some of the supports were prematurely removed and the boat slid gracefully down the skids into the water, but in doing so passed over Nathan Ash, one of the workmen, and killed him. Those on the boat and the crowd on the shore cheered and waved flags and handkerchiefs, not knowing of the accident. As soon as it became known their joy was turned to sadness.

Considerably later another sad thing happened in the capsizing, in a sudden squall, of the vessel "Fleetwing," then and for a long time commanded by Capt. Orren Quick. His wife and boy and Samuel Cluck, the cook, were all drowned in the cabin. The captain and sailors climbed up on the upturned boat and hung on till rescued.

Daniel Haner also built a large vessel at the end of the town line road (Lake Street), some distance north of where the shore now is. The sawmill was on the second lot north of the Anderson lot, now the northernmost one. This vessel was launched endways, sliding between two skids to the water, but in some way as it left the skids it stuck fast on the lake bottom and stopped, with one end still on the timbers. A tug from Oswego got the vessel off after considerable difficulty and towed it to Oswego, to be completed. The sawmill stood there until the lake had washed well under it, when it was drawn up town, where the dry house now stands, near "Tabor's bridge," and finally burned, while in use as a planing mill and sash and blind factory.

Ira and Roswell Sweet, with the assistance of their brother, Levi G., also built several vessels at the harbor, and Henry Putnam built one or two further up the creek.

TRAFFIC WITH CANADA.

Niagara, on the Canada side, at the mouth of Niagara River, was the principal market and trading place for the first settlers here. The journey to and from there was generally made by boat, but later many drove to Youngstown and crossed in a ferry boat. For a time a ferry boat was in use there that was propelled by a wheel, which was made to revolve by horses walking on the deck of the boat. Those going from their homes by small boat sometimes had severe times before they could get back, because of the storms on the lake. There was also much complaint about the quality of the provisions procured there. About the only articles the first settlers had to sell were "long butts" and "black salts." The former were white oak staves, split or "rived," about four feet long and six inches wide. They were piled up along the lake shore, and inspectors from Niagara examined and measured them, and if accepted they were taken off by small sailing vessels, sent from Niagara for them. "Black salts" were made by leaching the ashes from the burned log heaps, then boiling down the lye until it became solid, so as to be shipped in old boxes or barrels.

EARLY AGRICULTURAL METHODS.

As soon as there was any chance to do so, wheat or rye

was sown or corn planted among girdled chestnut trees, or around the stumps of trees that had just been cut down and burned. The new, rich soil, gave good crops, where there was no chance to plow or cultivate except with a small heavy "A" shaped drag. The grain thus raised was often eaten—boiled whole—for there was no mill near to grind it.

MILLING.

As a substitute for a mill a large mortar was made beside the Lake Road, about midway between Olcott and Wilson, by hollowing out the top of a very large stump, until the "bowl" would hold a bushel or two of grain. A heavy hard wood pounder, or pestle, was hung on a spring pole over this, and with this corn was pounded and broken. It was then sifted and the coarsest boiled for "samp," while the finer was made into "Johnny cake." Often in the morning quite a crowd would be in line waiting their turn to use this "mill."

Before long a little grist mill was built at Van Horn's on the Eighteen-Mile Creek, and another on Honeyie Creek, east of Olcott, near the lake. There were water-power mills, but as the Erie Canal was not yet built, the only water supply was from rainfall, and at some seasons of the year these mills were useless for lack of power. The boy who went to one of these mills with a bushel of wheat or corn, on the back of a horse, often found the "miller" a long distance from the mill in the field at work, and was obliged to wait until time for dinner or supper, when, if water enough had accumulated above the dam, he got his grinding done. Some went with an ox team, often led by their only horse, ridden by a boy, to Niagara Falls to mill.

In 1825 Reuben Wilson built a grist mill on the Twelve-Mile Creek, but here, too, water power was very unreliable. Afterwards Luther Wilson put in steam power. For many years Gen. Taylor, as he was called, was the miller, while John T. Ward attended to the engine.

LAYING OUT THE VILLAGE LOTS.

In 1842 Luther Wilson employed Jesse P. Haines, a surveyor, to lay off a part of his land into village lots. The land was at the southeast corner of Lot 9, Township 15, Range 8, of the Holland Land Company's survey, bounded east by the Town Line road (Lake Street), north by lands of Luman Case, and south by land of Simon Shelden. A map was filed in County Clerk's office.

About the same time, or soon after, Simon Shelden had the same thing done to a part of his farm, the northeast corner of Lot 8, Township 15, Range 8, by William Woods, a surveyor. The Town Line Road was his east line and his north line. Between his tract and that of Luther Wilson is about four rods, and one village lot north of Seminary street.

Andrew Brown, whose farm was the northwest corner of Lot 90, Township 15, Range 7, bounded west by Town Line Road and north by Youngstown Road (Young Street) also began selling off village lots at an early day, and sold off his whole front, except the village lot where he lived.

Then John Onderdonk, who came to Wilson about 1850, purchased the farm, in the south west corner of Lot 91, Township 15, Range 8, bounded west by Town Line Road and south by Youngstown Road, and as Wilson was having quite a "boom" at that time, he soon sold off the largest part of it for village lots, at a good profit, including the corner lot, with the old farm house, and he built for himself a large brick house, a little further east.

FIRST VILLAGE MAP—INCORPORATION.

The first complete map of the village was made, in 1889,



VIEW OF HARBOR AT LAKE ISLAND PARK, WILSON, NEW YORK.

by E. V. W. Dox, Surveyor, and a copy was filed in the office of the State Comptroller, at Albany, one in the Niagara County Clerk's office, and another in the Village Clerk's office. The latter was unfortunately destroyed by fire a little over a year ago. Wilson Village was incorporated under the laws of the State in 1858, the first Trustees being: Luther Wilson, President; Luren D. Wilson, Reuben F. Wilson, Henry S. McChesney and William P. Grout; John Hosmer, Clerk. It then contained 715 people and about 416 acres of land.

FIRES.

The village has sustained some severe losses by fire, of stores and public buildings, as well as some dwelling houses. There was the burning, in about 1879, of a three-story brick store and two small frame ones, on the north side of Young street, just west of Lake street; of the Masonic block, corner of Young and Catherine streets, consisting of two brick stores and hall overhead; of two stores and a dwelling house, corner of Young and McChesney streets; of the Ontario House, a stone hotel, and Presbyterian Church, in 1894, on west side of Lake street, between Young and Mechanic streets; of the brick American hotel, corner of Young and Center streets; and a year ago last June of eight stores or other business buildings, with eleven separate business enterprises, including the postoffice, on the north side of Young street. In nearly every case the buildings destroyed have been promptly replaced by better ones. The church and both hotels have been replaced by modern structures, that are great improvements over the ones burned. Three single and two double stores have already risen from the ashes of the last fire, all much finer than the ones formerly occupying the ground, and in addition a fine two-story, double brick store is nearly completed on the opposite side of the street.

THE RAILROAD.

In 1869 there was much talk about a railroad, to be built

through the town, and an attempt, finally successful, was made to get the town to bond itself for twenty per cent. of its assessed valuation, in aid of the construction of such road. Hezekiah Seeley, William Hamblin and James C. Hopkins were appointed Railroad Commissioners, and issued bonds for \$117,000, payable, a certain sum of principal annually for forty years, with interest at seven per cent.

These bonds were in some way disposed of, theoretically, at least to aid the Lake Ontario Shore Line Road Company in building its road. In return the town was to receive stock in the company, to the amount of the bonds, and the taxes on the railroad property were to be set aside by the County Treasurer, for the payment of the bonds. But some of the people in town disputed the legality of this bond issue, and litigation was commenced, which lasted nearly ten years, and resulted in the bonds being held to be legal and a lien upon the property of the town. In 1872 the road was mostly graded through this town, but the railroad company then failed, and the road, as it was, was sold on mortgage foreclosure. This rendered the stock worthless. After a few years the road was completed and put in operation as a division of the Rome, Watertown and Ogdensburg Railroad. It has since been leased, for a long term of years, by the New York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company. In the spring of 1881 the office of Railroad Commissioner having been abolished, and the Legislature having, by special act, authorized certain bonded towns to settle their bonded indebtedness by the issue of new bonds, the Supervisor and Justices issued new bonds to replace the old and pay costs and interest accrued during litigation on old bonds at four and one-half per cent, which the bondholders had agreed to take. These bonds were to the amount of \$163,000, payable \$4,000 of principal each year and interest at five per cent. Probably owing to the litigation, and consequent uncertainty as to the legality of these first bonds, the County Treasurer had failed to set aside the railroad tax

as required by law. After an unsuccessful attempt to secure action from the Board of Supervisors, the Supervisor of the town, in 1887, began a suit against the County to secure the benefit the town should have under this law. A similar suit, started by the Town of Somerset, was tried and decided in favor of the town. This decision was sustained by the General Term on appeal by the County. In 1892 the Board of Supervisors, by resolution, directed the County Treasurer to begin complying with this law, and set the railroad tax aside to pay the town bonds, and in 1893 a settlement was made, by which the County paid the Town of Wilson nearly \$20,000 for the loss the town had sustained from the non-compliance with this law in the past. In the spring of 1902 the \$79,000 of Wilson bonds, yet outstanding, were called in and paid, as the law authorized, after twenty years from issue, and new bonds issued for that amount, with interest at three and one-half per cent.

THE GRIM REAPER

When people came to Wilson to live death soon followed. The first one to fall before him was Stephen Sheldon. Where he was buried we have not been able to learn, but it is stated that as early as 1812 some interments were made on the peninsula, often called an island, west of the harbor. Quite a number were also buried at an early date on the hill, south of Young street, and east of the creek. In 1846 a plot of about two acres of land from the southwest corner of the Nathaniel Davis farm, being also the southwest corner of Lot 90, Township 15, Range 7, was set apart for a burying ground. It was on the east side of Town Line Road, nearly opposite where the depot now stands. The railroad now passes through it. This ground was used for years and many burials were made there. In the year 1850, on October 25, a meeting was held at Wilson Village, attended by twenty citizens of the town. Nathaniel Davis was chosen Chairman, and Alfred Ransom, Secretary. A preamble and resolution was adopted, stating that Luther Wilson had offered to donate a suitable piece of ground for a burial place, and gratefully accepting his offer. The proper steps were then taken to incorporate, under the rural cemetery law, an organization, to be known as "The Greenwood Cemetery Association, of Wilson," and Luther Wilson, Curtis Pettit, John Onderdonk, Morgan Johnson, Robert L. McChesney, Simon Sheldon, Nathaniel Davis, Hiram B. Tabor and Enoch Pease were elected Trustees. A deed of about eight and one-quarter acres of land was given, dated December 27, 1855, by Luther Wilson and Sarah, his wife, to Robert L. McChesney, Simon Sheldon, Eldert V. W. Dox, Luren Wilson, Harvey N. Johnson, Calvin Pratt, Hiram B. Tabor, Abram Vosburgh and Curtis Pettit, as Trustees of "The Greenwood Cemetery Association." An addition, making a new section and a walk and driveway to Harbor street, has since been purchased by this association. And a further addition will soon be needed, for nearly all the lots are now sold. This "city of the dead" must now have a population much greater than the village. Those who move into the village often move out again, but those who move in here come to stay. Before the railroad was built E. V. W. Dox, David L. Barnum and Harvey N. Johnson were appointed commissioners of removal, and all the bodies were removed from the burying ground near the depot. In compliance with a State law, passed some years ago, a record has been kept since that date of all interments made, and showing the exact spot where buried, so that any grave made since that date can be certainly located at any time.

The Presbyterian Church of six members, organized in 1819, soon received quite large additions, and August 28,

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

1821, a meeting was held at the house of John Holmes, with Daniel Holmes and John Holmes as presiding officers. John Holmes, Peter Crosby, Ezra Barnes and David Bixby were elected Trustees, "for the purpose of managing the temporal concerns" of "The Wilson Presbyterian Society." On October 1, 1864, another meeting was held at the "school house near Squire Wilson's," and it was voted to reorganize the society ("our charter being previously lost by not strictly complying with the act, in such cases made and provided"). The same persons officiated at the meeting as before; the same name was selected, and David Bixby, Daniel Holmes, Ezra Barnes, Nathan Pratt, John Holmes and Jonathan Sayer were elected Trustees. On August 5, 1834, Reuben Wilson conveyed, by deed, to George Sheldon, Nathaniel Davis and Robert Davis, Trustees of the Wilson Presbyterian Society, a lot on the west side of Lake street as a site for a house of public worship. A church was built on this lot and dedicated in 1835. After being enlarged and remodeled it was burned and a fine new church, of stone and brick, has been built in its place. Rev. E. F. Tiffany is the present pastor.

METHODISM IN WILSON.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Wilson was first formed as a class in connection with the Lewiston circuit. The first quarterly meeting, of which this class formed a part, was held in Porter, in August, 1823. The first one held at Wilson was on July 8, 1826, Bishop Elijah Hedding, presiding. Till August 27, 1842, it remained in this connection, and in 1844 Wilson first stands on the conference minutes alone. The first pastor of Lewiston circuit, with Wilson a part, was Rev. Ira Brounson, and the first pastor of Wilson charge was Rev. Nelson Hoag. A meeting was held in March, 1827, presided over by A. Prindel, with Joshua Williams, Secretary, and Abraham Hutchenson, Hulburt Carter, Joshua Williams, John Haze, Andrew Brown and Robert D. Smith were elected Trustees. Another meeting was held December 28, 1835, according to law, to incorporate a church society. Sylvester Hosmer and Daniel Terry were chosen to preside, and John Haze, Samuel Terry, Samuel R. Merwin, Cyrus Case, Luther Wilson, Samuel Healey and Sylvester Hosmer were elected Trustees. The name of the society was fixed as "The First Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the Town of Wilson." Soon after this a lot was purchased of Andrew Brown (generally known as Squire Brown) across Lake street from the Presbyterian Church, and extending along the north side of High street, from Lake street to Warren street. It is believed a deed of this lot was given at this time, but by some oversight it was not placed on record and was lost; but before Mr. Brown's death he gave another deed of these premises, dated May 6, 1880. A church had been built, in 1838, on the corner of Lake and High streets. In the year 1883 Thomas and Charlotte Exley, a wealthy couple, without children, living on Maple street, offered to give liberal assistance towards building a new church. Their offer was accepted, the old church was moved off the lot and a fine modern structure of brick was built on the lot. The present pastor is Rev. W. I. Janes.

WILSON BAPTIST CHURCH.

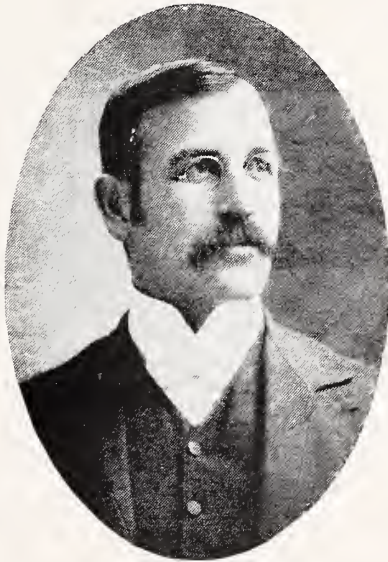
In December, 1833, Russell Robinson, living on "Slash Road," first farm north of Ide Road, called a meeting for conference and prayer at his house. Similar meetings con-



REUBEN W. OLIVER.



DANIEL HOLMES.



REV. L. L. ROGERS.



H. SANFORD.



RALPH STOCKWELL.



J. G. O. BROWN.



LORENZO N. PRATT.

tinued to be held on Sabbath evenings, and the place of holding them was changed to a school house in District No. 4. Rev. Amos Reed, of the Newfane Baptist Church, preached occasionally. In May, 1834, Mr. Reed organized a branch of the Newfane Baptist Church, consisting of Russell Robinson, Stephen Millard, Abraham Pettit, Eunice Millard, Sarah Robinson, Jerusa Oliver, Sally D. Oliver, Electa Pettit and Curtis Pettit. Alanson Robinson and wife, Alexander and Harry Pettit and Sally Robinson united with this church at this time. A council was held at this school house, October 23, 1834, and "The Wilson Baptist Church" was organized, Rev. Arah Irons, of Yates, preaching the sermon. On April 21, 1838, this church held its first meeting at "Wilson's Four Corners," in the school house there, and in September, of that year, Rev. J. Halliday became the pastor. Luther Wilson deeded a lot, corner of Pettit and Chestnut streets, in Wilson Village, to the Trustees of the First Baptist Church in Wilson, December 20, 1843, where a stone church was erected. About 1880 this was replaced by a wooden church building, of convenient and modern construction.

A meeting was held October 18, 1881, to formally incorporate a church society. John Swick was Moderator, and A. N. Dobbs, Secretary; William O. Pettit, P. C. Bailey, J. G. Markle, Homer Swick, E. E. Dox and John Hill were elected Trustees. The present pastor of the church is Rev. C. J. Scholpp.

OTHER CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS.

About the year 1865 a class was formed, in Wilson, in connection with the Free Methodist Church in Porter. Meetings had been held in Wilson Village at times for several years previous to this. Services, that were largely attended, were held nearly all winter, in 1860 and 1861, in the building, corner of Lake and Mechanic streets, now occupied by A. N. Dwight as a dwelling house. In the class formed were Albert A. Dailey, William Robinson, John Robinson and John Colbath, with John Billings as leader. A permanent place for worship being desired, in 1874 several members of the Porter Church purchased of Willard Brown a lot on the west side of Washington street, with a dwelling house and wood working shop on it. The shop was remodeled into a church. A meeting was held December 16, 1868, presided over by Fred Marguett and Robert Morrison, and Fred Marguett, Edwin Vosburgh, George Johnson, W. Hurlburt and J. G. Markle were elected Trustees of "The First Free Methodist Society of Wilson." The church and lot were conveyed to the Trustees of this society by a deed, dated January 25, 1881.

At some time previous to 1870 a church was organized in the southeast part of the town, and March 31, 1870, Thomas Adriance deeded a lot on the southwest corner of Beebe and Smayer roads to Fritz Goodman, Fritz Bobzien and Christian Goodman, Trustees of "The Christian Evangelical Church of Wilson." A church was built on this lot, and interesting and profitable services have been held there since.

About the same time another church was organized in town, a little further south, and in April, 1871, Stephen C. Wakeman deeded a lot on the north side of Chestnut street to "The Trustees of the Chestnut Street Methodist Episcopal Society of Wilson." Chestnut street is the modern name for the Marsh Settlement Road. A church was built, and regular services have since been held there. Rev. John McGuidwin is now the pastor of this church, in connection with the one at Warren's Corners.

On July 17, 1876, a meeting was held, at which William Smidt and August Lampe presided, and William Gunschou, Ludwig Hillman and William Kurger were elected Trustees of "The German Evangelical Lutheran St. Peter's Church of the Town of Wilson," and September 26, 1876, Ralph Stockwell deeded a lot on the east side of the Beebe Road to the Trustees of this organization. A church building was erected, and German Lutheran services have been maintained there ever since.

By a deed, dated August 30, 1876, David Nelson conveyed one and a half acres of land on the north side of the Nelson Road, a road running from the Town Line Road to Maple street, to Lewis Hillman, William Gunschou and William Crager, Trustees of "The St. Peter's German Evangelical Lutheran Church of Wilson," for church and burial purposes. A church was built and services held there for some time, but the building burned some years ago and has never been rebuilt.

BUSINESS CORPORATIONS.

Several business corporations have also been formed in town. In October, 1883, "The Wilson Public Hall Association" was incorporated, with H. Sanford, E. F. Barton, H. Seeley, J. M. Newman and A. J. McBrier, as Directors, with a capital of \$2,500. The old Methodist Church was purchased, moved to a lot procured for the purpose and fixed up for a public hall, and is still so used.

"The Wilson Creamery Company" was incorporated in November, 1894, with thirty-two stockholders, and a capital of \$3,950. S. H. Pettit, W. H. Holmes, C. N. Markle, J. W. Eggleston, H. Sanford, G. W. Perrigo, John Diez, E. Burton and A. W. Swick were the Directors. A lot was purchased and a separate creamery built and put in operation. But it did not prove a permanent success, and after a few years the property was sold, and the building is now used as an automobile factory.

"The Wilson Telephone Company" was incorporated in December, 1898, with the following directors: George Wadsworth, A. N. Dwight, J. P. Tenbrook, W. N. Harris, George Moul, B. A. Stone and Fred Haner. A line was put up extending to the depot and harbor, and connecting with many business places and residences.

THE UNMENTIONED PUBLIC SERVANTS.

We would be glad to give here the names and an account of the deeds of every one of the pioneers who came here, from time to time, during the first half of the century just past, and who, by their skill and forethought, as well as muscle, turned a dense, trackless, solitary forest, filled with pools of ague-breeding stagnant water, into a garden filled with fruit trees and the homes of hundreds of happy, healthy families; also of those who all these years have carried on those business enterprises so necessary to the growth of the town, and those who as residents, or lately residents, of the town have in official or non-official positions, given good service to the Town, County, State or Nation. The life work of all these men and women is an essential part of the history of this town. That it does not appear here is not because of any lack of appreciation of their character and services, but because the limited time for preparation, and the limited space for publication, make it impossible. Only general and public matters can be described, personal references being only incidental.

EDUCATIONAL PRIVILEGES.

The importance of educational privileges has always been recognized in this town. In 1821 Reuben Wilson, Da-

vid Bixby and Alexander Butterfield were elected School Commissioners, and they divided the town into five school districts. There are now thirteen, besides the Union School district. Realizing the advantage of a High School to a town, in 1845, an amount was raised by subscription sufficient to erect a building and start an Academy. Luther Wilson gave \$500 to this fund. This Academy was incorporated by the Regents under the name of "The Wilson Collegiate Institute," with Luther Wilson, Simon Sheldon, Morgan Johnson, Andrew Brown, Robert L. McChesney and Hiram B. Tabor, Trustees. A lot was secured of Simon Sheldon, which was conveyed by him to these trustees by deed, dated November 24, 1845. A two-story stone building, large and commodious for those days, was erected, and a school opened in 1846, with Benjamin Wilcox, Principal, and David H. Davis, Assistant. They remained in charge nearly ten years, and were very successful, the school building being filled to its utmost capacity by students, many of whom came from long distances. The income for the support of

the same building; while a primary and intermediate department was maintained elsewhere in the village, and three primaries in the school houses on Maple street, Town Line Road and Randall Road. Prof. S. C. Hall was the first Principal.

About twelve years ago a large brick addition to the stone building was erected to accommodate the village primary and intermediate departments. New buildings have also been put up for the south and west primaries, and, in 1900, the old stone structure, so long a landmark in the village, and so well remembered by so many, scattered almost everywhere, was torn down and a large brick building, with all modern improvements, including one of the best systems of heating, ventilation and sanitation, was built in its place, at a cost of \$12,000, beside furnishing, grading the grounds, etc. Prof. C. C. Scheck, Principal for four years, with a corps of able assistants, six in that building and three in the outside primaries, is conducting a very successful school. The teachers' training class last year contained twenty-two



WILSON UNION SCHOOL BUILDING.

the school was derived entirely from tuition. After 1856 the school was under the care of different teachers, who met with various degrees of success. Among those who taught here were Asher B. Evens, for years the successful Principal of the Lockport Union School; Ambrose P. Kelsey, till his death a member of the faculty of Hamilton College, and Albion Winegar Tourgee, since well known as soldier, Judge, author of "Fools Errand" and many other books, magazine editor and United States Consul. In 1869, after much discussion and agitation, a Union School district was formed, embracing the old village district and the ones east, south and west. Board of Education: H. N. Johnson, President; Sylvester Parsons, Vincent Seeley, J. G. O. Brown, Jerome Gifford, Henry Sanford; Henry J. Perry, W. Richardson and L. N. Pratt.

The Trustees of Wilson Collegiate Institute turned their lot and building over to this Board of Education, and in August, 1870, an academic department was opened under the charge of the Regents of the University of the State of New York. A grammar department was also opened in

members, twenty-five being the maximum number allowed. A class of eleven were graduated, with honor to themselves and credit to the school, with commencement exercises that called out and interested two large audiences on two very stormy evenings. The prospects for the next year are excellent.

LAKE ISLAND PARK.

The "Pine Woods," just west of the village and east of the creek, have always been a favorite place for picnics and outdoor summer gatherings. About fifteen years ago they were purchased by a company, of which W. N. Harris was a member and the manager. Buildings were erected and a pleasant and convenient pleasure resort established, called "Lake Island Park." Many steamboat loads of excursionists have come here from Toronto, some seasons one or more boatloads coming nearly every day. Picnics from this and neighboring towns come in carriages. Excursions come on trains, and the last Saturday in July, of each year, the Farmers' Picnic is attended by thousands, from all over the County. The Twelve-Mile Creek, christened "Tusca-

rora River," after the park was started, makes a sudden bend about a mile west of the harbor, forming a peninsula, almost an island, containing some fifteen acres, or more, of land.

MAPLE GROVE PARK AND SUNSET BEACH.

A dozen years or more ago George Moul purchased about three acres of this and cleared it off, set out maple trees, laid off lots and named it Maple Grove Park. He built some cottages, and purchasers of lots did the same. John T. Barnes, of Philadelphia, and a little later J. J. Miller, of Pittsburg, became interested in the place, spending their summer here. A company was formed, buildings put up, electric lights and water works were put in, and "Sunset Beach" has become an attractive place for a summer outing. Mr. Miller has a steam yacht, to convey people to and from the place.

FRATERNAL SOCIETIES.

Various fraternal organizations have been formed in town. The oldest is Ontario Lodge, No. 376, of Free Masons, organized in 1855. It now owns a large double store, brick building with iron front, three stories high; the lodge occupying the whole upper story as hall, dining room, kitchen, etc.

Peter A. Porter Post, No. 126, Grand Army of the Republic, was organized in 1871. It owns, free of encumbrance, the little building where its meetings are held. It numbers about thirty, but from the nature of the organization, only those who took part in a war that closed over thirty years ago, being eligible for membership, it must grow smaller and some time be no more. It has in its library seventy volumes of the Rebellion Records, published by the United States Government, presented to the Post by Hon. Peter A. Porter, and about thirty volumes of the Adjutant General's Reports, published by the State and secured for the Post by Comrade L. D. Le Van, of the Adjutant General's office, at Albany. The Post also has a beautiful United States flag, a gift from Hon. Peter A. Porter. Auxiliary to the Post is Peter A. Porter Corps, No. 66, of the Women's Relief Corps, a very helpful organization of loyal women. They also have a fine silk flag, a present from the late Gen. Benjamin Flagler. In close sympathy with these organizations is Peter A. Porter, Jr., Camp No. 143, Sons of Veterans. They are uniformed and equipped, their guns and their silk flag having been given to them by Hon. Peter A. Porter, who is himself one of the charter members of the Camp. This organization greatly assists in the exercises of Memorial Day and the keeping up of this patriotic observance will soon devolve upon them.

Douglass Lodge, Ancient Order of United Workmen, was organized in 1878. Its numbers are not as great as at one time, but its present membership are stayers. It meets in Grand Army of the Republic Hall.

Tuscarora Court is a very large and flourishing lodge, of the Independent Order of Foresters. They have a very fine rented hall over the postoffice.

The Modren Woodmen and the Mystic Circle both have local organizations in town. Other organizations that have flourished here for a longer or shorter time are the Sons of Temperance, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Good Templars, Royal Templars of Temperance, Equitable Order of Mutual Aid, Equitable Aid, Sextennial League, Macca-bees, and perhaps others.

MILITARY ORGANIZATIONS.

Since about 1820, when Daniel Holmes, who had served in the State Militia as a Lieutenant, in the eastern part of

the State, received a Captain's commission, and was directed to hunt out those liable to military duty in this part of the Holland Purchase woods and order them to report at Lewiston to form a company and to "train," there has been some interest in military matters in town. An Artillery Company was organized here, at an early day, equipped with cannon, furnished by the State, and commanded by Capt. Luther Wilson. It was afterwards under the command of James M. Newman, who was commissioned Lieutenant, in 1858, and promoted to Captain, in 1861. At the outbreak of the war, in 1861, quite a large number of Wilson young men were members in some capacity of the Sixty-sixth Regiment, State Militia. Neither this regiment nor any of its companies went into the United States service, but very many of its officers and men did, and even the little military training they had received was valuable to them and to the Government in its task of making an army at short notice of untrained volunteers.

The first, and every call, for troops to defend the Union met with prompt response from this town, and it is doubtful if any other town in the State can show a better ratio of soldiers to population. Twelve days after the first call was issued about eighteen men, and perhaps more, had enlisted from this town. The records show, enlisted April 25, 1861, the following in the Twenty-eighth Regiment, all of whom the writer believes to have been Wilson men: William H. Ariance, William H. Gaskill, Edward Green, Francis Haner, Orin Salsbury, William H. Salsbury and George B. Swick, and, the next day, Norman O. Allen, James D. Ames, Lieut. Nelson H. Beebe, Daniel Caton, Daniel H. Davis, Vosney Farley, Lieut. Truman B. Goodenough, William Kruske, Perry Putnam, Thomas C. Tenbrook and William H. Tenbrook.

One of these, Daniel H. Davis, who enlisted April 26, 1861, was, it is believed, the first Wilson man to give his life for his country. He died at Strasburg, Virginia, about a year from the date of his enlistment, with typhoid fever, really from neglect and want of the care and treatment that he needed, and was unable to get because of the retrograde movement of Gen. Bank's army. Just at that time his comrades sent his remains home, in charge of one of their number. He was buried, the first Union soldier, in Greenwood Cemetery. Very impressive funeral services were held.

This town was represented in very many organizations in the Union army and on very many battle fields, East and West. There were a large number in Company B, Eighth New York Heavy Artillery, and of the more than 260 men that served in Battery M, First New York Light Artillery, very nearly 100 were from this town.

This town was also represented, by former residents at least, in the ranks of our friends, the enemy. George N. Shears was caught in Tennessee when communications were suspended, and, like others, found the easiest way to avoid trouble was to join the army in some way. Shears soon got away to the North and joined the Union Army. Harry Cudaback was in New Orleans, and when the city fell into Union hands, and his regiment hurriedly left, he staid and soon enlisted in a Maine regiment. Gilbert and William Onderdonk had gone to Texas, some years before, and they went with their friends and neighbors into the rebel ranks. Both were at the battle of Pea Ridge, where William was wounded and captured by the Union forces. He was allowed to return to his father's family, in Orleans County, where he spent the few remaining years of his life.

The town also had its representatives in the Spanish-



F. E. ARNOLD, SOMERSET.



DAVID H. COOKE, WHEATFIELD.



GEORGE W. POTTER, SOMERSET.



J. G. BIGGINS, WILSON.



JAMES KELLEY, NEWFANE.



WILLIAM C. METCALF, TOWN OF LOCKPORT.

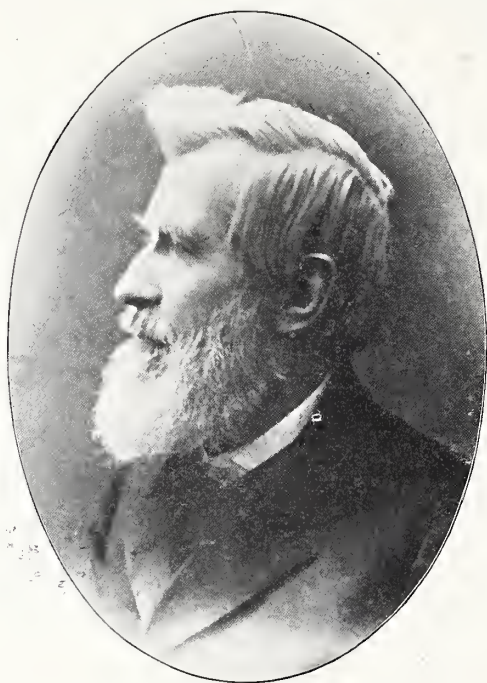
American War and in the Philippines. One of our young men, Frank Litchard, has recently returned from Manila, after a full three years of service in the army, and quietly resumed the duties and labors of civil life, showing that with our young soldiers, as well as with those of a third of a century ago.

"It was as easy their passion from war to wean,
"As their lips from the mouth of the old canteen."

Town and City of Lockport.

BY JOSHUA WILBUR.

AND constituting the Town of Lockport was, as a part of Montgomery County, in the German Flats district; and in 1789 in Town of Northampton, which included the whole of Ontario County; it was in the Town of Batavia while a part of Genesee County, until 1804, when Batavia was divided into four towns: Willink being one, bounded on the west by



JOSHUA WILBER.

the West Transit (our Transit street), and including the eastern portion of the present Town of Lockport. When Niagara County was erected, in 1808, the part of the County north of Tonawanda Creek was constituted one town—Cambria—which included the present Town of Lockport. In 1812 the Town of Cambria was divided into four towns, the portion east of the West Transit line constituting Hartland, in which the eastern part of the present Town of Lockport was located. This became a part of Royalton when that town was taken from Hartland in 1817. On February 2, 1824, the Town of Lockport was formed from Cambria and Royalton, with its present boundaries; up to which time it was nearly enveloped with the primeval forest, through which the Red men roamed, and wild beasts made their haunts.

To note the advent of a part of the pioneers into this region during the century will be the principal object of this sketch; but space will allow mention of only a part.

THE OLD NIAGARA ROAD.

Among the notable roads here in early times was the Old Niagara Road, extending from Batavia to Fort Niagara and Lewiston—originally an Indian trail. It passed through

the northern part of Lockport, and now forms a portion of the boundary of the city on the north. Along this path, in 1799 and 1800, Philip Beach, the mail carrier, made his journeys on foot, guided by blazed trees, several days being required to complete the round trip. When night overtook him the ground was his bed, as there was no white man's habitation to enter. The mail, which was principally letters, was carried in his coat pocket. This was the first "Rural Free Mail Delivery" in Niagara County. Mr. Beach was the pioneer settler in Cambria, on the bank of Howell's Creek, in 1802.

At Chestnut Ridge the Niagara Road crossed the tiny stream proceeding from Cold Spring, a noted Indian resort. This stream was not covered as at present, and there was quite a depression in the highway at that point.

EARLY SETTLEMENTS.

In the winter of 1802 Adam Strouse erected a shanty at Cold Spring, "by permission of Joseph Ellicott, which was applied for by the mail contractor, Stephen Bates, who wanted a place at which his postman could shelter, warm and refresh himself and horse. This shanty was without doubt the first structure of any kind in the town."

Thomas Slayton and others settled on Township 14, Range 6, in 1803.

In 1804 Charles Wilber took land of Holland Land Company, in Township 14, Range 6. Isaac Clark also took land in the same locality. Joshua Slayton settled the same year in Township 15, Range 6.

In 1805 Charles Wilber is credited with being the first white settler in the limits of the present Town of Lockport. He located at Cold Spring, where he afterwards kept tavern. October, 1800, the first tax roll was made for the Town of Northampton. The name of Charles Wilber appears; value real and personal estate sixty dollars. Tax, thirty-one cents. He was not then a resident of the present Niagara County. The Commissioners of Excise, Town of Willink, licensed Charles Wilber, in 1807, to keep inn or tavern. He was also one of the three Commissioners of Highways of that town. April 5, 1808, he was chosen one of the Commissioners of Highways at first town meeting held in Cambria.

SOME CHRONOLOGY OF THE EARLY CENTURY.

In 1805 the Town of Willink was organized.

In 1805 Nathan Clark and Reuben Lewis settled on Township 14, Range 6.

In 1807 John Forsyth and wife, daughter of Capt. John Ganson, settled at Warren's Corners, where Forsyth kept tavern.

In 1807 the vote of the Town of Willink at annual election, on Assembly ticket, was 115.

In 1808 Ridge Road, between Wright's Corners and Warren's Corners, was laid out.

On April 5 the first town meeting was held in Cambria.

On April 8 general election was held. Aggregate vote cast in Cambria was seventy-three.

Jedediah Darling settled in Lockport in 1808.

SILLAMON WAKEMAN.

In 1809 Sillamon Wakeman came from Seneca County, New York, settling on Chestnut Ridge, east of Cold Spring. He was three weeks cutting his way through the woods from Seneca County. In 1817 Sillamon Wakeman, with Nathan B. Rogers and James Conkey, cleared ten acres and built a log house for Nathan Comstock where the Odd Fellows Home now stands. Mr. Wakeman sold his farm in



MICHAEL M'GRATH.



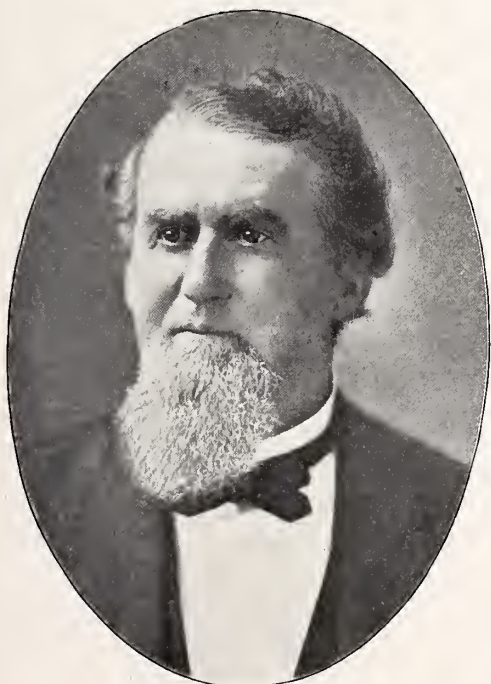
LLOYD SMITH, M. D.



PETER D. WALTER.



WILLARD J. DANIELS.



JOHN W. STEELE.



HORACE C. HOAG.



HORATIO KILBORNE.

1818 and went West with his family. At Maumee, Ohio, he left his family and went prospecting as far as Adrian, Michigan. He returned to Maumee, took the malarial fever, then prevalent there, and died. His widow buried him and started to return to Western New York, with her remaining children, one having died at Maumee. She died on the old homestead in 1823.

THE CARLTONS.

David Carlton came from New Hampshire, in 1809, and settled about half a mile east of Cold Spring. He brought seeds with him and planted an orchard in the forest.

Joseph Carlton also came from New Hampshire and settled, in 1810, near Warren's Corners, on land procured from the Holland Land Company. He built a log house, thirty by forty feet, and two stories high. Rev. Thomas Carlton, agent for the "Methodist Book Concern," was a son of this pioneer, and once resided here.

THE WAKEMANS.

Stephen Wakeman, Sr., located, in 1810, next east of Cold Spring. He was a brother of Sillamon Wakeman. In 1840 the grounds, now known as Cold Spring Cemetery, were purchased of him by an incorporated association. Mr. Wakeman lived on the spot where he settled, in 1810, until his death, in 1852, at the age of ninety-one years, less three days. He was buried in Cold Spring Cemetery. His wife died in 1844. Mr. Wakeman was a Revolutionary pensioner.

Edward Adams Wakeman, son of Sillamon, was born on Chestnut Ridge, July 4, 1810, the first white child born in the limits of the present Town of Lockport. In 1828 he came into the Village of Lockport to live. His occupation was wool carding and cloth dressing. He was Tax Collector in 1848-9 and 1850, and Chief of Police in 1867. Mr. Wakeman died February 9, 1898. His wife died in 1878.

OTHER PIONEERS.

In 1810 David Pomroy, Thomas Mighells and George Miller settled in town. Jabez Pomroy, an early carder and cloth dresser, also came in 1810.

Alexander Freeman came in 1811, and in the same year built the first sawmill on a branch of the Eighteen-Mile Creek.

Thaddeus Alvord, Alexander Haskins and John Howder were settlers in 1811.

In 1812 the Town of Hartland was taken from Cambria.

During the War of 1812-14 Gen. Dearborn, on behalf of the Government, cut through from Wright's Corners to Warren's Corners, and laid a "corduroy" road of logs the entire distance.

In 1813 Ezra Warren, a Vermonter, who had served in the War of 1812, married the widow of John Forsyth, and became landlord of the Forsyth tavern, which he kept until 1825. From him the place took the name of Warren's Corners.

Jesse Griswold came in 1813. He was in the employ of Joseph Ellicott, and had charge of the salt works on the farm about two miles northeast of the City of Lockport. The inhabitants were mainly supplied with salt from these springs previous to the opening of the Erie Canal. In 1817 he settled on a farm near Millard's Bridge, where he died in 1869.

Jacob Loucks became a settler in the eastern part of the town.

In 1814 the population of the Town of Hartland was 350.

In 1814 John Williams settled in the eastern part of town.

In 1815 the Mountain Road was laid out, from Cold Spring to Cambria, and also called Batavia Road in the eastern portion. This road became Main street, in the Village of Lockport, afterwards.

James Conkey came from Orwell, Vermont, in 1815, and settled on Akron Road, just south of the Village of Lockport. His daughter became the wife of Prof. Seager, a noted Methodist minister in this region in the early days. Mr. Conkey died in 1857.

John Gibson, in the same year, started the first blacksmith shop in town, a little east of Warren's Corners.

Jabez Pomeroy, Henry Norton and Jared Tyler became settlers in 1815. Marvill Harwood came to Royalton, and later to Lockport Village.

In 1816 Reuben Haines came from Pennsylvania; settled and built a log house about where Pound street now is. He cleared up several acres, but in 1822 removed to Orleans County, residing there until his death in Ridgeway, in 1853, in the sixty-third year of his age. He was a minister of the Society of Friends, and father of the late Calvin Haines, of Lockport.

Nathan Comstock came from Ontario County, New York, in 1816, and settled on the farm now occupied by the Odd Fellows' Home. In the fall he put in ten acres of wheat, the largest clearing in the neighborhood. He also had a famous orchard of about 700 trees, some of them being still in existence.

Nathan B. Rogers came, in 1816, from Massachusetts, walking the entire distance. He worked at first for Nathan Comstock. In 1817 he purchased 160 acres, which is now within the city limits. He died in 1878, in his eighty-second year.

In 1816 Esek Brown bought land of the Holland Land Company, west of the Transit, and put up a log house. When the work of cutting the canal through the Mountain Ridge commenced he turned his log house into a tavern, which became the boarding place and headquarters of the contractors. Brown also sold off considerable of his farm for village lots.

In this year several log houses were built. Zeno Comstock had one on Saxton street; John Comstock, a lawyer, built near "The Cave;" Asahel Smith built on the Transit. Webster Thorn also lived on the Transit, in the house where Arza Lounsbury afterwards resided, and Daniel Smith built a house on the Transit, opposite Thorn's.

Josiah Richardson came from Madison County and settled on land that later became the Poor House farm.

Luther Crocker came from New England and made his home in the northwestern part of the town, where he continued until his death, in 1861. Joseph, his son, aged twelve, came with him.

Daily stages from Canandaigua were running in 1816 over the Ridge Road to Lewiston and Buffalo. Travel increased rapidly.

In 1817 Royalton was taken from Hartland and named by the early settlers from Royalton, Vermont.

The Mountain Road (so called) from Cold Spring, west, was improved somewhat in 1817-18. Nathan B. Rogers chopped off a "strip" nineteen rods wide, from Transit nearly to Locust street, in the winter.

Oliver L. Millard came from Washington County, New York, in 1817, and located in the northeast part of the town, on the farm where he resided until his death, in 1877. Mr. Millard was a sub-contractor on the Erie Canal, general



JAMES JACKSON, JR.



WILLIAM LAMBERT.



ALONZO B. LEWIS.



ARZA LOUNSBURY.



JAMES R. LACKOR.



WARNER H. M'COY.



CHARLES W. FLAGLER.

superintendent after its completion, and connected with it in different capacities for fifteen years.

Alvin Buck, a pioneer tavern keeper, located in the wilderness at Wright's Corners, in 1817, and later was a resident of the Village of Lockport. He became noted as the tailor who repaired the pantaloons of Judge Marcy in 1830, for which the State paid fifty cents, a part of his bill of expenses, to which he was entitled. When Marcy ran for Governor, in 1832, this item was brought up against him; the Whigs paraded in their processions stuffed pantaloons with a patch, and the bill in full.

Charles Smith also located here in 1817.

FIRST MAP OF LOCKPORT.

In 1818 Jesse P. Haines came from Pennsylvania, by wagon, consuming twenty-seven days in the journey. Mr. Haines located in the woods, just south of High street, cleared a space, and put up a log cabin. His nearest neighbor dwelt in an Indian wigwam, and often at night the howling of wolves was heard. When his wheat was harvested he took a bag to Rochester to have it ground, going on horseback. Mr. Haines was a surveyor, and his services were continually in request, even when old age came upon him. He published the first engraved map of the Village of Lockport in 1830, and another in 1845, when the village had extended its bounds. The latter map is referred to at this day in legal documents as the standard. He was a brother of Reuben Haines, previously mentioned, and, like him, was a member of the Society of Friends. He died in 1877, in the eighty-fifth year of his age. His wife died in 1856.

Thomas Haines, son of Jesse P., came with his father and mother, a babe of a few months. When grown to man's estate he was engaged in the drug business in the Village of Lockport. He finally went West, and died in 1854.

Almon H. Millard was the first Supervisor of Royalton, chosen in 1818. At the first town meeting, held April 7 of that year, Nathan Comstock was elected one of the Overseers of the Poor; one of the Commissioners of Highways; one of the Inspectors, and one of the fifteen Fence Viewers and Overseers of Highways.

Dr. Ezekiel Webb came in 1818—the pioneer physician of the town. He lived on the N. B. Rogers place, south of the city.

In 1818 Jabez Pomeroy carried on the business of cloth dressing at the head of the Gulf.

In 1819 the Society of Friends erected their first church of logs in the woods, on the triangular plot formed by Main, Market and Elm streets. This was the first house erected for religious worship in the bounds of the Village of Lockport. On the same grounds was their cemetery.

Zeno Comstock built the first sawmill in what was afterwards the Village of Lockport, in 1819. It was located in the Gulf, on the west branch of Eighteen-Mile Creek, just north of Chestnut street.

In 1820 the population of Royalton was 1849.

Maj. Almon H. Millard purchased 700 acres from the Holland Land Company in 1820. He built on it the first framed house, still standing, on Prospect street.

George W. Rogers, brother of Nathan B., came from Massachusetts in 1820. He commenced blacksmithing in 1822, and did a large part of the iron work for the locks, when first built. He was afterwards in the grocery trade. Later he was cashier of the Canal Bank. He died in 1877.

Mrs. Esther Comstock, whose maiden name was Hayward, came in 1820. In 1822 she was married to Horace Comstock, a miller, who came in 1821. He died in 1862,

David Frink built a sawmill, in 1820, on the site now occupied by the Lockport Paper Mill.

Col. Nathan Doty and wife came from Pennsylvania, in February, 1820, and settled near Lockport Junction. He removed to Michigan about 1854. He died in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1884, aged eighty-eight years, less six days. His wife died in the same place six days previous to her eighty-sixth birthday. They enjoyed some sixty-five years of wedded life.

Joseph W. Doty, son of Nathan, was born December 3, 1820, in the log house built by his father. He always lived in the town. He died in 1902.

Sidney S. Cross was born on Slayton Settlement Road in 1820. He came to the Village of Lockport when a young man and is still living, in his eighty-third year.

Helon and Hiram Mead came in 1820, and settled on a farm.

Capt. Wareham M. Woodward came with his father about 1820.

David Thomas was appointed, in 1820, principal Engineer of the Erie Canal west of Genesee River.

In 1820 there was not a framed building within five miles of Lockport; later the village site had less than 100 souls, with only a few log houses on the city site.

In 1821 rattlesnakes were numerous along the Mountain Ridge at Lockport, especially at the Locks.

Lockport received its name in this wise, according to a statement in the Lockport Journal, made by Jesse P. Haines, December 18, 1858: Very early in the spring of 1821 Mr. Haines was requested to survey some village lots; the proprietors, Jared Comstock, Darius Comstock and Otis Hathaway, with Nathan Comstock, Dr. Isaac W. Smith and Mr. Haines, met and discussed what the name of the embryo village should be. Mr. Haynes proposed Locksborough; Dr. Smith suggested Lockport, which was finally adopted, and the map was designated "A Map of the Village of Lockport."

The whole western part of the Erie Canal was put under contract in 1821.

Nathan Comstock was Supervisor of Royalton in 1821.

Esek Brown opened his log house as a tavern. It was situated about at the corner of West Avenue and Prospect streets.

Otis Hathaway came about this time. He was active in bringing real estate into market.

Laborers commenced clearing woods above the Big Bridge.

George H. Boughton came from Canandaigua, in 1821, and William C. House, Asa W. Douglas and Bailey H. Whitcher came in the same year.

A. H. Millard donated one acre for a cemetery; it is still in existence, between Webb and Bacon streets, and appears to have been well filled, although but few headstones are seen. Maj. Millard was buried there in 1838, dying in his fifty-second year.

About where No. 69 Main street now is was built, in 1821, a famous log house by Dr. Isaac W. Smith. The logs were "small, nearly equal in size, with the bark peeled off, and whitewashed both inside and out." The description is given by Marcus Moses, who settled in the village in 1823, and saw the structure. Into this rural palace, in 1821, Dr. Smith brought his blooming bride, who soon acquired the title of Aunt Edna, and who is to this day remembered by the older citizens for her benevolent smile and kindness of heart. She was a typical Quakeress, and always wore the garb peculiar to that sect.

George Le Valley started a lime kiln, in 1821, where the Richmond factory now stands. These lime kilns were quite numerous around Lockport, especially along the banks of the canal above the locks, their fires glowing like beacons in the night.

James McKain, Jr., left Batavia in June, 1821. He followed the "Old Lewiston Road to Cold Spring, and then came through the woods—along a new road—the saplings being cut out, to the village. He lodged the first night at Esek Brown's tavern. The next morning he attended to business, and took a look at the town. He soon "raised" a house of peeled logs on the site of the subsequent Mansion House, which he built on West Main street in 1822, and

east as the residence of Judge Dayton, was a dense forest. * * * *

"I brought with me from Batavia an old stock of goods, which I stored at Esek Brown's until I could build a store. There was no store nearer than Hartland Corners. When it became known to the women that I had good tea stored at Brown's, no excuse would answer; have it they would, and I was obliged to open shop. In two or three weeks I moved my goods into a new framed store, an imposing building at that time, twenty-five feet square, a story and a half high. Here for several weeks I had no opposition in trade. Soon, however, House & Boughton got their new store finished, and Lebbeus Fish brought on goods from Batavia.



NIAGARA COUNTY ALMS HOUSE.

kept for many years. It is still standing, an additional story having been added, and is now called the Exchange. Capt. McKain died in 1866.

Dr. Enoch T. Bond came in 1821, when only six months old.

Deacon Luther Crocker came to the village in 1821, a blacksmith, and was engaged in canal work.

MORRIS H. TUCKER'S STORY.

Morris H. Tucker came in the summer of 1821. His description of affairs at that time, printed in Turner's Holland Purchase, in 1849, is highly interesting: "Jared Comstock and Esek Brown were selling village lots on Main street. Brown's land was cleared from Genesee street to a little north of Caledonia street, and extended from Prospect street to Transit. Jared Comstock's land was cleared from his south bounds to the north side of Niagara street. From the north side of Niagara street the land was uncleared; and the land from the head of the locks, around the ravine, embracing all the lower town and extending as far

and Lockport began to be a place of no little importance."

The site of Mr. Tucker's store is stated to have been about No. 40 Main street. Mr. Tucker was an energetic business man, and while Secretary of Merchant's Gargling Oil Company died, in 1866, in the sixty-ninth year of his age.

George W. Rogers and Amy Comstock, daughter of Jared Comstock, were married in 1821. She died in 1822, and is stated to have been the first person buried in the Quaker Cemetery, between Market and Main streets.

Col. William M. Bond came from New Hampshire in August, 1821. He bought of Esek Brown considerable of Brown's farm, and soon became an extensive proprietor of village real estate, in connection with Jesse Hawley, his brother-in-law, and his brother, John G. Bond, who came from Rochester, New York, in this year.

THE FIRST BAKER.

John Jackson, the pioneer baker of Lockport, came from Boston, Massachusetts, in 1821, and commenced business. His location was on Buffalo street, about on the site

of Darrison's flour and grain store. Here, according to the statement given the writer by a pioneer of 1822, Jackson had a small building in which he mixed his dough, and sold his bread and crackers. His first bake oven was made of clay, and built on a platform resting on a large stump in Buffalo street, in front of his premises. Sticks were inserted in the clay as the oven was formed, and when it was fired these sticks burned, leaving the oven like one solid brick. His brother, Uriah Jackson, was a baker, and worked



ISAAC C. COLTON.

for John. They used a hand stamp and cut out the crackers one at a time. In the middle of the stamp was the name "Jackson." Ultimately John Jackson built and owned all the buildings to the southwest corner of Main and Cottage streets, including the corner. Gen. Jackson, later in life, was extensively engaged in business here and in the West. He died in 1875.

Thomas Smith came from Oak Orchard in 1821. He built the first stone store on Main street, which is still standing—No. 19. Here he carried on a successful business for several years, but being in delicate health, died in 1840, in his forty-fifth year.

In 1821 Rev. George Colton, father of Isaac C. Colton, and a large family of sons and daughters, became the settled pastor of the Congregational Church, Royalton, near Orangeport. Later, when retired from the ministry, Mr. Colton was a resident of the Village of Lockport. He died in 1858.

AN EARLY HOTEL ANNOUNCEMENT.

The Lockport hotel, built by Samuel Jennings in 1821, was the first framed tavern here. It was situated on the western portion of ground now occupied by the Kenmore, and although only one story, was somewhat spacious for those days. An advertisement, dated December 7, 1821, in the Lockport Observatory, reads: "Samuel Jennings respectfully announces to the public that he has erected, in the Village of Lockport, on the west bank of the Grand Erie Canal, a convenient building for a public house, and is now ready for the reception of ladies and gentlemen. From his long acquaintance with the business of entertaining genteel company, and having kept a public house for many years, he with confidence solicits public patronage. He keeps on hand at all times the choicest of liquors; and will spare no pains to afford comfort and satisfaction to those who may

favor him with their company." Mr Jennings kept this house, at different times, for several years. It was burned in the great conflagration in 1854. A burning lamp was overturned and, with a high wind and inadequate facilities to quench fire, it caused the most disastrous event that Lockport ever experienced.

EARLY JOURNALISM IN LOCKPORT.

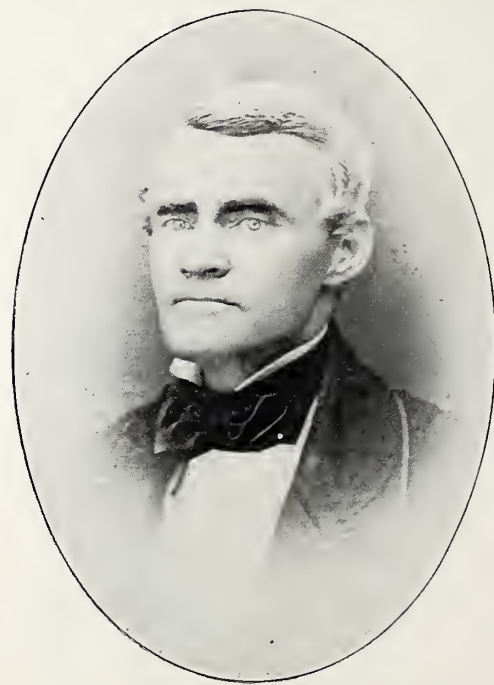
In 1822 Bartimeus Ferguson removed his printing office to Lockport from Lewiston. A syndicate of local capitalists started the "Lockport Observatory" to boom the place. B. Ferguson was the pioneer printer. His outfit consisted of an old Ramage press, a few fonts of battered type, and ink balls. With these scanty materials he got up a very respectable sheet, as the few copies still in existence show. The principal editor was Mr. Scissors, the small amount of written matter being mostly political squibs.

In the late summer Orsamus Turner came from Palmyra, New York, just at his majority, and purchased the Observatory office. Mr. Ferguson had recently been discharged. The first number issued by Mr. Turner was dated September 26, 1822. He was Lockport's first editor, and was connected with the press here almost continuously until his death, in 1855. The printing office was in a framed building on the site now occupied by the Exchange Bank.

The office of the Canal Commissioners and Canal Engineers was in the same building.

The Observatory was published until 1827, when it was united with the Niagara Sentinel, and issued under the title Democrat and Sentinel.

A copy of the first number of the Observatory was preserved by Morris H. Tucker, and was subsequently deposited in the cornerstone of Grace Church.



ORSAMUS TURNER.

The first bridge across the canal at Main street was formed of two log stringers reaching from shore to shore, across which split logs were placed, bark side up. It was wide enough for only one team.

In April, 1822, Franklin J. Le Valley came from Royalton to Lockport Village, being then six years old. He died in 1899, in his eighty-fourth year.

Daniel Washburn was Supervisor of Royalton in 1822-3.

Elliott Lewis, pioneer harness and saddle maker, came in 1822, and continued in that occupation until 1846. He

was then the owner of about twenty acres on and about Washburn Street. He laid out Lewis Street, and the city named it after him. Mr. Lewis died in 1881.

Shepard & Towner opened the first shoe shop in Lockport.

Miss Ordella De Lozier "came to Rockport hamlet;" her father was Peter De Lozier. She became the wife of B. H. Whitcher in 1825, and lived to an advanced age.

Jonathan Chase, M. D., came in 1822. He was a popular physician, and the owner of considerable real estate. He died in 1852.

R. L. Wilson erected a log school house at his own expense, in 1822, and taught school there for quite a while. It was about on the site of the Free Methodist Church, Park avenue. In 1830 R. L. Wilson was ordained in Somerset.

A postoffice was established in 1822, and was kept in House & Boughton's store. George H. Boughton was the Postmaster.

Chipman P. Turner, a brother of Orsamus, was a horse-back mail carrier from Molyneaux's, by the old road from the Ridge to Lockport.

In July, 1822, Lockport was selected as the County seat. A two-acre lot on Niagara street was purchased from William M. Bond for the site of the County buildings.

Elias Ransom, Jr., was the pioneer lawyer.

John Birdsall, Esq., came about 1822, and was the partner of E. Ransom, in the firm of Birdsall & Ransom.

James F. Mason, attorney, was here in 1822.

June 6 N. S. Roberts, resident Engineer on the canal.



THE OLD LOCKPORT HOUSE, MARKET AND EXCHANGE STREETS.

this County, and became pastor of the Baptist Church there. In 1839 he resigned.

Sidney Smith came about 1822. He kept a store for some years in the stone building that stood on No. 15 Main street.

"HERSEY'S" EXCHANGE COFFEE HOUSE.

The Exchange Coffee House, corner of Hawley street and Park avenue, was built about 1822 by Gideon Hersey, who came that year. It was a popular tavern, being located near the Court House, and "Gid." Hersey was a popular landlord; but business moved away from that locality eastward, and has continued to advance in that direction. The ancient structure is still standing, and is the private residence of H. K. Wicker. For several years after it was abandoned as a public house, the name on the front was visible, although covered with paint. Over fifty years ago it was occupied by Prof. James B. Chase as a popular boarding school.

OTHER EVENTS OF 1822.

Charles Wynkoop came from Pennsylvania with his father's family in 1822, and resided ever afterwards in the Town of Lockport. He died in 1898, in the ninety-fourth year of his age.

John Pound came from Farmington, Ontario County. He had a meat market on the triangle where the fire alarm bell is now placed. He died in 1832, aged fifty-four years. His daughter, Amy, became the wife of Lyman A. Spalding.

Joseph S. Pound, a miller, came. Died in 1859.

Moses C. Crapsey came.

Harvey H. Wakeman, son of Stephen Wakeman, was born on the homestead, in 1822.

advertised, "1,000 men wanted at Lockport—twelve dollars per month and found."

Asher Saxton took forty acres, on east side Transit, in trade with Jared Comstock.

Pardon G. Richardson came in 1822; opened the first tin shop next west of Masonic Hall, West Main street.

John Richardson, father of Pardon G., came from Oneida County.

Dr. Isaac Southworth came; Mortimer M., his son, came with him.

William P. Daniels came from Whiting, Vermont.

Alexander Pound came.

Dr. Henry Maxwell came prior to 1822.

Benjamin S. Davenport came.

Jacob Hall was here in 1822.

Hiram Gardner was admitted to the bar in New York City in 1822. Came to Lockport the same year.

August 1 Culver & Maynard, canal contractors, advertised to purchase pork, flour, whiskey, oats and hay for cash.

August 19 Otis Hathaway advertised "stage wagon daily from Lockport to Buck's tavern, on Ridge Road."

In September Seamans & Battey, canal boot, shoe and leather store, Buffalo street, was opened.

Lyman A. Spalding came in December, 1822, on foot from Wright's Corners.

Solomon Wright settled on the Ridge in 1822, and opened a tavern. The place was called Wright's Corners from him.

CHRONOLOGY OF 1823.

In January John Gooding came from Henrietta, New

York. Stephen F. Gooding, his son, came with him.

The First Presbyterian Church was organized "third Sabbath in January, 1823," and a small framed building on Court House square, south side of Niagara street, was built. The society availed itself of the Holland Land Company's offer of 100 acres of land to the first church organized in a town, which had been declined by the Society of Friends, and selected a plot on the Transit, about two miles south of the village, which was afterwards sold for \$1,000 and the proceeds applied towards the expense of building.

Harvey W. Campbell came, with his family, from Lebanon, New York, in April, 1823, and opened a store in a small wooden building on the southwest corner of Main and Cottage streets, living in the rear part. He was one of the original members of the First Presbyterian Church, and a prominent Mason. Late in life he was Tax Collector,

He died in 1880. He wrote, in 1878, an interesting account of the village when he came, mentioning localities and persons, from which several items below are selected:

"William Fox, a barber, had his shop in a small building on the northeast corner of Main and Transit streets. There was a small store in the same building.

"Dr. Maxwell's office adjoined Samuel Jennings' hotel, on the east.

"Allen Skinner's blacksmith shop came next.

"These two buildings were about where the Kenmore now stands.

"House & Boughton's store was next.

"A little further along A. T. Prentice had a small building, in which he repaired watches and kept a small stock of jewelry.

"Where the Congregational Church now stands, on



THE LOCKS, 1825.

also a Justice of the Peace. He died in 1858, aged seventy-one years.

Price & Rounds, in 1823, had a grocery adjoining H. W. Campbell's store.

Samuel Pound came, in 1823, with an ox team.

James Rogers came.

Solomon Hersey came about 1823.

Deacon Stephen Story came from Norwich, Connecticut.

July 9, 1823, the first stone of locks was laid. John Birdsall, Esq., stood upon the foundation stone and announced the commencement.

Ezekiel Folsom came from Ontario County.

Merritt Johnson settled at Rapids.

Road to Wright's Corners cut through the dense forest.

Washington House built on northwest corner Transit street and Park avenue.

In July the first Circuit Court was held in Lockport, in the upper room of the Mansion House, that being the largest room in the village. Judge Rochester presided.

Alonzo T. Prentice, jeweler, came from Buffalo in 1823. He carried on that business for many years. He was, at different times, Justice of the Peace, Supervisor and Trustee of the village. He died in 1872, in the seventy-third year of his age.

Marcus Moses came in the fall of 1823, from Rochester.

Niagara street, was a small building used for a tavern.

"About at the northeast corner Cottage and Main streets John Birdsall had a law office. There was no other building between this and a yellow store kept by William Parsons & Co., which stood upon or near the ground now occupied by the Moyer block.

"The next was a stone building, a part of which was used for a store, and occupied by Thomas Smith; still standing. The ground between this and the store of Lyman A. Spalding, which stood where the Farmers' and Mechanics' Savings Bank does now, was vacant, and used as a passage way to the locks and to the front of a building which stood on the bank at the head of the locks. In this a grocery was kept, and it was afterward used as an office by Asa W. Douglass, the first toll collector.

"Next east of Spalding's store James F. Mason had a law office; he was Deputy County Clerk and kept the records of the County in his office.

"H. Kimberly & Co. kept a store adjoining the law office of J. F. Mason.

"At the top of the hill, where the Hodge Opera House stands, was the residence of M. H. Tucker. (Mr. Tucker was married in 1822, in Geneseo, New York, to Esther Chaffee McClean.)

"Where the American House is was a log building used

as a tavern. Timber was standing close about this building, and great stumps were yet in the street.

"Lyman A. Spalding lived on the southwest corner of Main and Locust streets, in a story and a half framed building. He bought the lot—one-quarter acre—of Jared Comstock for \$250.

"From there down to Pine street, on the south side of Main, not much improvement was made, as it was quite away from the business portion of the village. I well remember Isaac Price having urged me to buy a lot of him about where the Breyfogle building stands; but the location was too far out of town. It was then thought that the business would be done west of the canal. It was about in front of Breyfogle's that I paid my first highway tax. There was a gigantic stump standing in the street at this place, and myself and several others were two days busily em-

were piles of stone so high that the buildings on the opposite side of Main street were hidden from sight.

"On the point of ground between the canal and Main street, about opposite where the Judson House stands, was a stone building. In one part Hiram Gardner had a law office, and in another part a shoe store was kept. In the upper story the Masonic Hall was first established."

Chauncey B. Woodward had a bakery, corner Main and Transit streets.

Moses Goble kept a meat market west of Transit street, on West Main.

The members of the bar residing in Lockport in 1823, aside from those already mentioned, were Harvey Leonard and Theodore Chapin.

William Parsons came prior to 1823. He was an influ-



THE LOCKS, 1902.

ployed in removing it. Before the street was graded, the surface where the American House stands was about up to the floor of the stoop on that building, as it is now, and continued nearly level westward to where Breyfogle's store stands, where it was higher than the second floor of that building; from that westward it fell away quite abruptly.

"The Green store, occupied by Nathan B. and George W. Rogers as a grocery, stood a little west of Pine street, south side of Main. Adjoining this Elias Ransom had his law office; and there was Dr. Isaac Smith's office. From there west was a vacant lot enclosed by a stone wall. Then came the 'Red Store,' kept by William Kennedy, who died soon after on a canal boat near Rome, while on his way home from New York. West from the 'Red Store' was a passage way for teams to the yard of the Cottage hotel. The Cottage was a log house, of much renown in those days, kept by Joseph Langdon. He always kept a good fire when needed. * * * The Cottage stood upon the ground where the spacious Ringueberg block now stands.

"Gillett & Bacon kept grocery on Buffalo street, the fourth from corner Cottage and Main.

"There were some other small buildings and a blacksmith shop along what is now Buffalo street, but in front

ential man in business, official and church affairs. Died in 1855.

In October, 1823, the First Methodist Church was incorporated.

Eagle hotel (called Black Eagle), corner Niagara and Prospect streets, was built in 1823, and kept by one Holmes.

Wheat was sold in village markets on the Holland Purchase, this year, as low as thirty-seven and one-half cents.

Ellis F. Pierce came prior to 1823. Mr. Pierce kept a record of the date of arrival of the principal residents, and the time of death. The following, in addition to those already noted, came prior to 1823: George W. Douglas, George Richardson, Orin Fisk, A. G. White, J. G. Gustin, Job Layton, Jacob Bolard, Justus Jenney, James Harris, Samuel Larned.

CHRONOLOGY OF 1824.

In 1824, February 2, an act was passed by Legislature "to erect the Town of Lockport;" from the eastern part of Cambria and western part of Royalton; including an area of 35,397 acres.

On the first Tuesday of April, town meeting for election of officers, Daniel Washburn was chosen Supervisor; Morris H. Tucker, Town Clerk; Eli Bruce, Collector. One

hundred dollars was voted for the support of the poor, and fifty dollars for building a pound for the town. Ezekiel Folsom was appointed Pound Master.

February 6 Ames Royal Arch Chapter, No. 88, chartered. First officers installed March 25.

Col. Asher Saxton came from Cambria.

Eli Bruce came about 1824. Had been a resident of Niagara County for some years.

June 5 Lockport Lodge, No. 73, Free and Accepted Masons, chartered.

Small building erected on Genesee street, between Pine and Cottage, for First Methodist Episcopal church.

Isaac Allen came, and his sisters, Mrs. Phoebe A. Davenport, Mrs. H. Belding and Mrs. Budlong.

Chauncey Leonard came about 1824.

David Maxwell settled on farm at Wright's Corners.

Otis Hathaway built first grist mill, near waste-weir, Market street, about 1824.

Jesse Shaeffer came with his father, Samuel Shaeffer, who died in 1857.

Erie Canal was navigable to foot of locks in 1824.

"Black Store" is advertised by J. Van Rensselaer. It stood on corner Cottage and Main streets.

O. Turner's printing office, in upper story of stone building on the point between Main street and the canal.

John L. Hovey came about 1824.

First composition ink roller in America cast for Lockport Observatory, by a young Irish printer from Dublin.

Charter obtained for toll road from Wright's Corners to Warren's Corners.

EVENTS OF 1825.

In 1825 population of Town of Lockport 3,007.

Previous to 1825 only about 600 acres were cleared, in four square miles, with the Village of Lockport as the center.

In January the Court House was finished, and first court held.

David Maxwell got the contract to carry the mail from Wright's Corners to Lockport.

Samuel Stearns, cabinet maker, came about 1825.

The Baptist Church was formed in 1817 with twelve members and was called the Cambria Baptist Church. In July, 1825, the name was changed to the Lockport Baptist Church. Rev. Reuben Winchell began to preach in April of that year, and resigned in 1829.

Seth Parsons came about 1825.

Charles Belden opened a "Tin and Sheet Iron Factory" on Buffalo street.

George Reynale was the first settler at Reynale's Basin, about 1825.

Hopkins C. Pomroy was born in Town of Lockport in 1825.

On June 6, 1825, occurred the visit of Gen. La Fayette, with his son, George Washington, and his private secretary. William A. Van Valkenburgh came.

Ezra P. Wentworth came.

June 24 locks completed. Celebration of laying cap-stone.

Birdsall & Ransom, attorneys, opened an office.

William McCollum came.

In the summer of 1825 the right to use the surplus waters of the Erie Canal, at Lockport, was sold to Kennedy, of Lockport, and Hatch, of New York, for \$200 per year.

L. A. Spalding bought, in 1825, the land on which the

State race was constructed. He afterwards owned land on north side of the locks.

Cottage tavern managed by Dr. Seymour Scovell, assisted by John Gooding.

D. A. Van Valkenburgh came.

On October 26 the Erie Canal was opened from Buffalo to Albany. Governor De Witt Clinton visited Lockport. A thirty-two-pounder, belonging to Perry's fleet, was brought here from "Put-in-Bay," and was one of the line of cannon stationed from Buffalo to Sandy Hook, fired to telegraph the news that the first boats had started from Buffalo for New York.

Asa W. Douglas was the first Canal Collector here.

L. A. Spalding erected a sawmille, with power from his race.

Long causeway removed and turnpike made by David Maxwell. First toll road in the County.

November 1 L. A. Spalding commenced excavating for flour mill, seven stories, eight run of stone. It was running in the fall of 1826.

Population of Niagara County 14,069.

IN 1826.

In 1826, March 9, complaint in "Observatory" of unfinished canal bridge, and unprotected banks, twenty-five or thirty feet perpendicular.

Joel McCollum came from Palmyra, New York.

On June 1 advertisement in "Observatory" of packets from Buffalo to Utica: "Through in three days."

On June 10 Pomroy & Bass advertised carding machines having gone into operation at the Locks.

Caleb Marsh came from Danvers, Massachusetts, about 1826, and bought a farm on Chestnut Ridge, afterwards the



PROF. O. C. MARSH.

residence of Hon. Jonathan L. Woods. Is now known as the Wright Stock Farm. The wife of Mr. Marsh was Mary Gaines Peabody, the sister of George Peabody, the philanthropist, of London. Mrs. Marsh died in 1834, and was buried in the family cemetery on Chestnut Ridge. She was the mother of Prof. O. C. Marsh, of Yale University, from whom the writer received the above facts not long before the demise of the Professor. Caleb Marsh died in 1865, on a farm which he purchased in 1843, about one mile west of the Village of Lockport.

A law was passed, in 1826, establishing a State Road

from Rochester to Lockport, along the canal. In the Village of Lockport this road became Market street.

Hiram Gardner was appointed Associate Judge of Common Pleas Court.

M. McKenney came.

Charles Hinman and wife came from Saratoga County, New York, to the Town of Lockport.

Edward W. Raymond came. Built log tavern, which he kept for many years.

L. A. Spalding's big mill commenced running.

December 26 Genesee Commandery chartered.

Canal tolls collected at Lockport during 1826, \$7,053.-38.

IN 1827.

In 1827 The Niagara Sentinel, which was removed by Oliver Grace from Lewiston to Lockport, in 1824, was united with the Observatory, and issued as the Democrat and Sentinel; O. Turner, editor.

Hiram A. Cook came, in 1827.

Lower Town commenced, 1827.

March 6, 1827, Joel McCollum, Seymour Scovell, Otis Hathaway and Sylvester R. Hathaway purchased 300 acres of Nathan Comstock, which extended from Main street to the Old Niagara Road.

Peter Oliphant came. Died in Cambria, 1902, in his ninety-seventh year.

Canal tolls collected at Lockport during 1827 were \$7,868.41.

IN 1828.

May 1, Niagara Courier's first issue. Mr. Cadwallader, editor and publisher. Weekly.

May 8, High bridge; timber on the ground; to be done by September next.

May 10, Ben Barton and Robert Fleming, Commissioners, advertised for proposals for building a Clerk's office in the Public Square, Lockport.

May 30, Lorenzo Dow preached in this village to a large assemblage.

Washington Hunt came from Hunt's Hollow, Livingston County, New York. He entered the store of Tucker & Bissell, remaining two years.

John W. Rogers came; Eliza Faxon; later, the wife of John W. Rogers came.

Joseph Center was in practice here in 1828.

Peter Besancon purchased the Democrat and Sentinel, and changed it to the Lockport Journal.

Dr. John S. Shuler came.

Edward Bissell in business here in 1828. The Bissell mill, a large flouring mill, between Market street and the canal was built in that year; E. Bissell's sawmill was also built in 1828. It was located where the Trevor Manufacturing Company's machine shop now stands.

Jeremiah Dyer came from Porter, New York. His son, Oliver Dyer, came with him.

Mrs. Alexander Pound came.

Isaiah Stahler came from Seneca County, New York.

The raceway was extended to the Bissell mill.

July, George W. Hildreth, a native of Boston, Massachusetts, came from the regions of Northern New York. He established a manufactory of iron articles. He was a musician, and for a long time played the bass viol in the First Presbyterian Church, when that congregation did not possess an organ. He died in 1882.

Edward A. Wakeman came into the village of Lockport to live.

December, John Gooding built "Gooding cottage," corner Gooding and Washington streets, about 1828.

Postoffice established at Wright's Corners. Solomon Wright was Postmaster for many years.

May 8, Cooley & Lathrop, Book and Job Printers; office of "Priest Craft Exposed," a few rods south of the locks. Chaplin & Hart, attorneys, Canal street.

L. Fellows & Co., "in the business of merchandizing."

Lot Clark came about 1828. Albany Land Company



LOT CLARK.

purchased a controlling interest in real estate in Lower Lockport, Lot Clark being manager.

Pioneer stage line started, to run only six days in the week. "Deacon John Gooding was one of the stockholders, residing near the intersection of Washington and Gooding streets. The stages of this line stopped there on their way to and from the Niagara frontier. He had stables fitted up for their accommodation, and a blacksmith shop was near at hand. Mr. Gooding owned an extensive tract of land in the vicinity, extending back toward the branch of the Eighteen-Mile Creek, and from this fact, and the circumstances already enumerated, that portion of the village received the name of Pioneer Hill, by which it was familiarly known for a long time after." The Pioneer line of stages continued for about two years, and not proving a paying investment was closed.

December 9, meeting held to remonstrate against discontinuing Sunday mail. It was well attended. The representation sent to Washington stated that "there were within the village 400 or 500 buildings of various kinds, a population of about 2,000, and twenty-five respectable mercantile establishments. It emphatically denied that a majority of the business men favored the project of discontinuing the Sunday mail."

December 17, Old Line Mail Coach from Lewiston, via Lockport, to Rochester, passes Lockport, going east at 9 a. m. "Baggage at the risk of the owners."

Canal tolls collected at Lockport during 1828, \$13.-530.07.

Joel McCollum built and occupied the second habitation below the hill in the fall of 1828. Now No. 301 Market street.

IN 1829.

February 23, Grace Church organized. Lapsed a few years later.

February 19, James Catlin has recently established a drug store in the room adjoining postoffice, on Canal street.

February 26, M. H. Tucker & Co. advertise 2,000 gallons whiskey for sale by the barrel.

March 5, Rogers & Brown advertise 3,500 gallons whiskey, 500 bushels oats, 200 bushels corn.

An act incorporating Village of Lockport passed March 26.

First meeting of Trustees of village, May 13, 1829, held at the office of James F. Mason. Present: Joel McCollum, Levi Taylor, Levi E. Rounds, Joshua G. Driscoll and James F. Mason, the full board. Joel McCollum was appointed President; Henry K. Hopkins, Clerk.

George W. Rogers appointed first Chief Engineer of Fire Department, May 18.

On May 18 the Village Trustees ordered the appointment of sixteen firemen; and Sylvester Seeley, John Hallock, Amos Bigelow and George Hildreth were appointed at that meeting.

It was also ordered that sixteen hook and ladder men be appointed; Richard Southard, Horace Comstock, Erastus O. Smith and Elisha Hecox were appointed.

May 21, village Trustees appointed Edwin A. Cooley, William F. Stickney, Sanford L. Collins, John Scarborough, Darius Bucklin, A. G. White, William P. Slocum, Randolph Compton, Solomon B. Conley, Jacob Flint, William Pound and Chauncey D. Woodward, hook and ladder men, completing the number.

Charles F. Mitchell, Washington Hunt, Caleb Kniffen, Alfred R. Benedict, Stephen Bush, Norman Shepherd, Samuel G. Hamilton, Stephen Story, George Richardson, William T. Lewis, Saxton Burr and Joseph Pound were appointed firemen.

Lockport Balance established in Lower Town. Asa Story purchased Lockport Journal and changed it to Lockport Balance.

Isaac C. Colton came from Royalton.

County farm purchased in western part of the Town of Lockport.

Henry K. Hopkins, attorney, came. Died in 1846.

Alexander Ralston Chase, M. D., came. Died in 1887. Elisha Clapp came.

James D. Shuler came in 1828 or 1829. Died in 1868.

Daniel Price came, with his wife.

Lockport Bank incorporated April 22, 1829. The first President was Lewis Eaton, afterwards appointed Bank Commissioner; George Field was the first Cashier. Capital, \$100,000. The bank was located on the southeast corner of Market and Chapel streets, in a brick edifice, still in good state of preservation. Lot Clark succeeded Mr. Eaton in the Presidency. This was the first bank in Niagara County, and for several years the only one. In 1837 its charter was repealed by the Legislature.

Lockport House was built in 1829-30. Kept at one time by Dr. Seymour Scovell. Situated on southeast corner of Market and Exchange streets. Burned November 21, 1841.

Land Office, Market street, built about 1829. Lot Clark, General Agent of Albany Land Company, opened law and land office, fall of 1829.

Jeremiah Carrier came about 1829.

Norman Pomroy born in Town of Lockport.

Benjamin Carpenter came from Paterson, New Jersey. Joel McCollum appointed one of the Judges of the Common Pleas for Niagara County.

George W. Rogers and Marcia Faxon married.

Daniel Wilber Ballou came from Vermont. His son, D. W. Ballou, Jr., came with him.

George H. Boughton served as Postmaster from 1822 to 1829. In that year was elected State Senator; served four years.

Morris H. Tucker appointed Postmaster.

Charles F. Mitchell came; just out of his minority.

Samuel Works established a tannery on creek, south side of Market street.

James G. Lewis commenced business in Lockport.

Henry Walbridge, a miller, came from Geneva, New York. Edward Giddings came from Rochester.

December 21, Joseph C. Baker came. Was clerk of the old Lockport House.

Canal tolls collected at Lockport during 1829, \$12,503.43.

IN 1830.

Population of town, including village, 3,823. Population of village, nearly 2,100.

Josiah K. Skinner, M. D., came about 1830.

Edward I. Chase came about 1830.

Horace Birdsall came early in 1830. Commenced the manufacture of hats and caps.

First engraved map of Village of Lockport published by Jesse P. Haines, Surveyor.

Washington Hunt entered law office of Lot Clark in 1830. Willard Weld and Jacob Gaunt came.

First Presbyterian brick church built, corner Church and Ontario streets.

Stephen Gooding, brother of Deacon John Gooding, had store in "Exchange building," Market street, about 1830. Stephen F. Gooding was his clerk in 1832.

Nathan Dayton became partner with Lot Clark about 1830. Firm name, Clark & Dayton, attorneys.

David Sprague Crandall was here in 1830.

William Wallace Whitmore came to Lockport in 1829, and worked as a stone mason. In 1830 he purchased the property on the brow of Rattlesnake Hill, and commenced to develop the sand stone quarry there. His business prospered, and stone from his quarries was sent to many large cities. He died in 1898, in the eighty-eighth year of his age.

Captain Asher Torrance came in 1830.

Timothy Paige was born in the State of New York in 1798, removing at two years of age, with his parents, to Oneida County. They lived there till 1814, then went to Jefferson County and remained till 1817, when Timothy came, by schooner, to Fort Niagara, and walked to Wright's Corners, by way of Lewiston, continuing his journey to Slayton Settlement. In 1824 he married Mrs. Eliza Wright, in Pownal, Vermont. He settled upon a farm near Orangeport, which he had bought of Joseph Ellicott. In 1826 he was elected Constable, and served as Constable and Deputy Sheriff until 1836. In 1830 he removed to Lockport. In 1846 he went to Michigan, remaining eight years, after which he was a resident of Buffalo for twelve years. In 1865 he again became a citizen of Lockport, serving in various official capacities. He died January 10, 1889, in the ninety-second year of his age.

September 13, meeting of freeholders at house of Samuel Jennings. Resolved, that \$700 be raised in First Ward

to purchase a fire engine and hose for said ward.

October 2, village Trustees ordered tax for \$625 to buy fire engine for First Ward. L. A. Spalding authorized to contract for said engine.

October 5, village Trustees appointed George W. Rogers Chief Engineer of Fire Department.

Canal tolls collected at Lockport during 1830, \$21,549.33.

IN 1831.

Frederick Stearns was born in Lockport Village, April 8, 1831. In 1842 his father, Samuel Stearns, removed to Buffalo, where Frederick became an apprentice to the drug business in 1846. He went to Detroit, arriving there January 1, 1855. He was first a retailer of drugs; then wholesaler; finally a manufacturer; from one little room with a cook stove and one helper, now to works among the largest

Joseph T. Bellah came from Delaware. Operated sash factory in the "Hollow."

Fire engine purchased by L. A. Spalding; cost, \$495.57. Thomas Van Sickler and S. Ernest came.

Village Treasurer published report from May 11, 1830.

Yerington & Stickney, Lockport furnace, advertise 200 ploughs, made at the furnace, for sale.

to April 23, 1831. Receipts, \$1,186.54. Paid in same time, \$1,168.05.

James Goodrich came.

William Pearson came from England.

May 10, village election. Votes polled, 227.

Elnathan W. Lewis came from Canandaigua.

Joseph Center, Justice of the Peace.

George S. Place advertises "assortment of hats, manufactured in Lockport by T. & J. Birdsall, constantly for sale."



NIAGARA COUNTY JAIL.

in the world, employing 600 people, with an output which reaches all over the globe. The company—Frederick Stearns & Co.—was incorporated in 1882. Frederick retired in 1887, and has spent about twenty years traveling and collecting. He has donated all his collections to the City of Detroit—to the "Museum of Art." Mr. Stearns is still living in Detroit.

In March, 1831, trials were held at Lockport of persons charged with being in a conspiracy to abduct William Morgan, the Mason. No convictions.

James Goodrich came in 1831.

April 21, a new steamboat, Olive Branch, built by Hiel Rockway, has made several trips to and from our village and Buffalo, and meets the expectations of the proprietor. It is designed for a towing boat.

Samuel Works came from Rochester.

Othniel C. Marsh, son of Caleb, born in Town of Lockport, October 29, 1831. He became the noted Prof. Marsh, of Yale University, whose researches in Geology and Palaeontology made his name famous in the world of science. He died in 1899.

Col. H. W. Scovell came about the latter part of 1831.

1832—CHOLERA—GARGLING OIL FIRST MADE.

Cotton factory built by Lockport Manufacturing Company, which was capitalized at \$1,000,000.

Raceway extended to cotton factory.

In June cholera made its appearance in Lockport. There was great consternation. An old resident, living here at that time, says: "During the epidemic every day seemed like Sunday; little business was transacted, and country people seldom came to the village." Canal boats coming from the east were quarantined, a public fast was kept, and village and town Boards of Health took active measures to avert

the visitation. There were many cases, and several deaths, among them ex-Sheriff Eli Bruce. Richard L. Torrance, a druggist in the Lower Town, and his wife, were victims.

Dr. George W. Merchant came, and purchased the stock of drugs and medicines left by R. L. Torrance. He enlarged the business and soon opened an additional store in the Upper Town, in the block corner of Main and Cottage streets. In a few years he disposed of his Lower Town store and gave attention to Gargling Oil, which has made his name famous. In 1847 he relinquished his Main street drug store to J. H. Curtiss, and in 1853 sold his interest in Gargling Oil to a stock company, retiring with an ample fortune. He removed to Germantown, Pennsylvania, and died there in 1867.

Robert Wilson came to Slayton Settlement, Town of Lockport.

David Pye's brewery established.

Christ Church incorporated in 1832. Niagara Mills built.

Alfred Holmes came. He was a lawyer, and held at different times the office of District Attorney and County Judge.

Daniel Worrell came.

Levi F. Bowen came from Cortland County, New York. He was a lawyer, a Judge of the old Court of Common Pleas, Member of Assembly, Justice of the Supreme Court, member of the Constitutional Convention of 1867, and Provost Marshal of the Twenty-eighth District of New York during the rebellion. Also County Judge of Niagara County in 1878. Died in 1889, aged eighty-one years.

William C. Tucker came.

Eagle tavern was finished, in 1832, and opened in July of that year by John W. Witbeck. Located on site of the present Kenmore. "Standing near the bank of the canal, to which there are stairs immediately in front, under cover, and lighted during the night, and being open at all hours, makes it the most convenient point to take or leave the canal, and which can be done without inconvenience at any hour of the night, or during storms." Always popular. Burned November 2, 1854.

Jabez S. Woodward came.

Seth Whitmore came. Died in 1869, aged eighty-six years.

James P. Murphy came. An early cabinet maker.

Isaac C. Colton entered office of Clark & Dayton as clerk and student, in spring of 1832.

Anson Augustus Boyce entered the same office as a law student, in 1832. Mr. Boyce is still living in Santa Barbara, California, at the advanced age of eighty-nine years.

Farmers' mill built and in operation. Parsons, Gooding & Co. Also sawmill.

Second Presbyterian Church organized. Stone edifice on Van Buren street built in 1837. The oldest church building now standing in the city.

Siamese Twins visited Lockport.

About 700 United States regulars passed through this place on their way to Illinois.

In July, 1832, Gen. Scott passed through on the packet, to take chief command on the Western frontier.

Canal tolls collected at Lockport during 1832, \$28,434.22.

IN 1833.

Baptists erected a stone church on Pine street

Jonathan Ingalls came. Removed to Green Bay, Wisconsin, in 1850. Died there in 1875.

Brick yard of Peter Akins, "on Batavia Road, and within the corporation," on farm of 111 acres, advertised for sale, by him.

Isaac Price, Jr., was in business here in 1833.

Sullivan Caverno came, and studied law with Judge Gardner. In 1835 was admitted to the bar. He was for a time Police Justice of the Village of Lockport. He gave much thought to educational matters, and evolved the famous Union School system, introduced in Lockport in 1848. Mr. Caverno died in 1882. His widow died in 1901, aged eighty-two years.

Mrs. Joseph T. Bellah came.

Hon. N. Dayton appointed first Judge of Niagara County.

First Methodist Episcopal Church built of brick, corner of Niagara and Church streets. Rev. S. Seager, pastor.

IN 1834.

St. John's Roman Catholic Church built on Chestnut street.

Washington Hunt admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court. In 1834 also he was married to Mary H. Walbridge, who still survives him, residing in the City of New York.

Deacon Asahel Scovell came from Orwell, Vermont. He died in 1869. One daughter, Mrs. Hiram Gardner, still survives him.

Edmund Lee came from England. Purchased Salt Works farm, where he lived many years.

Abraham Jones and Stoughton Pettebone came.

Ebenezer W. Williams came from Royalton.

Mary Gaines Peabody, wife of Caleb Marsh, mother of Prof. Marsh, died at the homestead, Chestnut Ridge, in her twenty-seventh year.

IN 1835.

Population of town, including village, 6,092.

Niagara Democrat established. R. M. Lyon & Co., publishers.

Lockport and Niagara Falls Railroad commenced.

Pound Manufacturing Company began business.

Ezra Harwood came from Royalton, to which place he came from Massachusetts, in 1815. He died in 1859, aged seventy-one years.

William T. Rogers came from Holden, Massachusetts.

Daniel Bosserman came.

Hon. Jonathan L. Woods came from Cortland County, New York, in 1835. He was a distinguished lawyer. In 1840 he was appointed District Attorney for this County, which office he relinquished to become First Judge. He died in 1865.

Col. H. W. Scovell appointed Postmaster.

About 1835 John Whyman built organs on Market street, west of Exchange.

Gen. Daniel W. Flagler was born on Chestnut Ridge.

Ezekiel Folsom removed to Ohio City, opposite Cleveland, about 1835.

John G. Saxe, poet, lived here for a short time, in 1835.

Robert Kinne came from Montgomery County and settled at Rapids.

L. A. Spalding began making agricultural implements.

Thomas H. Hyatt purchased the Lockport Balance of I. C. Colton, and in about a year was appointed United States Consul to Algiers.

Charles F. Mitchell began the milling business.

R. S. Wilkinson came from Rhode Island. He was engaged in trade until 1851, when he became Cashier of Ex-



H BUDDENHAGEN.



HON. WILLIAM RICHMOND.



W. F. CLARK.



E. ASHLEY SMITH.



JAMES DICKSON.



WILLIAM ARLINGTON.



HARRISON S. CHAPMAN.

change Bank, which position he held until his death, in 1859, aged fifty-four years.

IN 1836—MARK HOPKINS HERE.

January 30, Washington Hunt appointed First Judge of Niagara County by Governor Marcy. He was but twenty-four years old, probably the youngest Judge of a Court of Record in the State of New York. He discharged the duties of the office with ability, and after a term of five years declined a reappointment, though strongly urged to accept by the members of the County bar.

American hotel built, corner Main and Locust streets. Now the Lincoln Building.

Jesse Hawley came from Rochester.

Mark Hopkins in business here, in 1836. He was in the general trade—dry goods, groceries, etc. The firm, in 1838, was Hopkins, Hewes & Shaeffer—the late Jesse Shaeffer being a partner. Mark Hopkins was Clerk of the Board of Trustees of the village for a few terms. He afterwards went west and drifted to California before the gold excitement. He later was in the hardware business in Sacramento, his partner being Collis P. Huntington. These two men, with Leland Stanford and Charles Crocker, in 1860, planned and commenced the construction of a Pacific railroad from San Francisco to Ogden, a distance of over 1,000 miles, which they completed in 1869. At the outset their combined capital did not exceed \$200,000. These four country merchants were laughed at by the capitalists of California at the inception of their enterprise. Hopkins, in consequence of his recognized financial ability, was elected Treasurer of the company. He died suddenly at Yuma, Arizona, in 1878. In Cold Spring Cemetery, a short distance from the entrance, to the right, is a lot surrounded by a substantial iron fence, and on the gate is "Mark Hopkins." This was his property, and as late as 1855 the fence was erected by his order. But he is not buried there. His brother, Henry K. Hopkins, a lawyer, who died here in 1846, fills a grave there, and by his side is his wife, Mrs. Alexander.

Hon. N. Dayton appointed Circuit Judge.

W. W. Whitmore furnished from his Rattlesnake Hill quarry sandstone for the first street pavement in Buffalo.

Thomas T. Flagler came, in 1836, being then twenty-five years of age. He was a printer, and "worked at the case in the Niagara Courier office. He had a small farm on Chestnut Ridge, east of Cold Spring; walked back and forth daily to his work." In 1838 he became proprietor of the Niagara Courier, which he conducted for four years. After that he was in the hardware business for several years. He was President of the Holly Manufacturing Company from its beginning; President of Niagara County National Bank for many years, and foremost in many business enterprises. He was a prominent man in the First Presbyterian Church, and an officer for a long time. He was at various times Member of Assembly, Representative in Congress, and an incumbent of other offices. He died in 1897, in the eighty-sixth year of his age.

William E. Cooper, a mechanical engineer, came in 1836. He was one of the first locomotive engineers on the old Lockport and Niagara Falls Railroad, "and in the winter of 1845-6 constructed the first and only locomotive ever built in Lockport. It was named the 'Independence,' afterwards changed to the 'Jenny Lind.'" In the sixties he was master mechanic on the western division of the New York and Erie Railroad, with headquarters at Dunkirk. For several years before his death he was with the Brooks Locomotive Works at that place. He died in 1885.

June 6, village Trustees appointed Alanson D. Hunt Common Crier.

Truman Kilborne came about 1836. He died in 1873, aged ninety-four years. His son, Horatio Kilborne, is living in Lockport, at the age of eighty-two.

Lockport and Niagara Falls Railroad opened. Operated by horse power.

Stephen Sult came in 1836. He was foreman in the construction of the Lockport and Niagara Falls Railroad. He built the first eight-wheeled car on that road. It was long, with a door at each end, and seats running along either side. The cars first used on the road were short, and having three doors on each side, the seats being placed across the car like those in a stage coach. In 1856 Mr. Sult became roadmaster on the New York Central Railroad, between Lockport and Buffalo, and continued in that service until a few years ago, when he retired on a pension. Mr. Sult reached his ninetieth birthday July 21, 1902.

Samuel Works elected State Senator, Eighth Senatorial District, for four years.

Charles F. Mitchell published, in 1836, carefully prepared statistics of the business and manufactures of Lockport at that time.

December 9, village Trustees ordered leather fire buckets suspended in every building where fires were kept.

There was an era of speculation all over the country in 1836, in which Lockport participated, in a small way. It brought disaster to many, and the succeeding years show the failure of many hitherto prosperous men and firms.

IN 1837.

Rev. William C. Wisner came. Preached his first sermon to Second Presbyterian Church on the last Sabbath in May.

First Lutheran Church organized. Rev. John Selms, pastor.

Mrs. Emily N. Hixson came.

May 16, Benjamin Carpenter appointed Chief Engineer of the Fire Department by the village Trustees.

Elliott W. Cook came. He was a gunsmith, and his rifles attained marked popularity. He raised a company at the breaking out of the rebellion, and was commissioned Captain, May 6, 1861. Promoted to Major September 21, of the same year, and to Lieutenant Colonel the year following. While living in California, to restore his shattered health, he committed suicide by shooting, in 1877.

George H. Allen, tailor, issued shinplasters, payable in "cabbage," which passed current during the financial stringency.

James Murray came from Queensbury, Warren County, New York. Henry Murray, his son, came with him.

August 23 Lockport and Niagara Falls Railroad advertised "Two trips per day by steam power;" twenty-four miles in about one hour and forty minutes, including stops.

S. Cady Murray came.

Benjamin Lett resided in and around Lockport during the Patriot War.

Silvester Flummerfelt's blacksmith shop was on Main street, a little above Spalding's office, in 1837.

IN 1838.

Canal Bank organized under general banking law, about 1838. William O. Brown, President; George W. Rogers, Cashier. Capital, \$100,000.

Second Presbyterian Church, Van Buren street, dedicated January 8, 1838.



J. W. LITTLE.



GEORGE B. THOMPSON.



GEORGE W. WEAVER.



ALMON M. GRAHAM.



GEORGE T. M'COMB.



H. M. WITBECK.



CHARLES E. DICKINSON.

Bernard P. Alberty came.

First Free Congregational Church organized June 7, 1838. Building corner Niagara and Church streets dedicated July 23, 1840.

Solon S. Pomeroy came. Learned the printer's trade in Niagara Courier office under T. T. Flagler; was later an assistant editor of the Lockport Daily Courier. He was connected with the press in Lockport for over thirty years. Was Canal Collector in 1855-6; Member of Assembly in the latter year; was Captain and afterwards Major in the New York National Guard. Mr. Pomeroy is still in the editorial harness at Glens Falls, New York.

James Scribner came.

John Anderson came from Canada. He was a shoemaker in his earlier years. Was one of the partners in the Journeymen's Shoe Shop. Mr. Anderson was a Constable for several years, and an early Chief of Lockport police. He died in 1898, aged seventy-nine years.

Edward Simmons came and commenced the jewelry business, which he carried on successfully until his death, in 1892.

June 8, Mrs. Papworth, with her little son, fell through High Bridge and was killed, striking on the towpath. The boy had a leg broken. She had in her arms a girl baby, which she had the presence of mind to turn onto the floor of the bridge, as she was falling. The girl was unhurt.

June 12, village Trustees ordered High Bridge closed, on account of the accident.

Lockport Bank and Trust Company organized August 23, 1838. W. Hunt, President; L. C. Woodruff, Cashier. Located in the building previously occupied by the Lockport bank.

September 11, village Trustees ordered clerk to procure candlesticks and candles for use of the board previous to next meeting.

November 28, Tusacora Fire Engine Company No. 2 organized in Lower Town.

Deacon John Gooding, patron of Pioneer Hill and after whom Gooding Street was named, removed to Lockport, Illinois and died there in 1840, in fiftieth year of his age.

Among the descendents of Deacon Gooding, representatives of four generations are shown in the illustrations. Stephen F., son of John; A. Stewart, grandson; George S., great grandson, and Sanford S., great great grandson, all now living.

Citizens held meeting at Eagle Tavern and decided to establish a night watch for the village.

May 27, village Trustees appointed Mark Hopkins clerk. (His handwriting was beautiful.) Trustees also paid N. Leonard, bookseller, 44 cents for quills.

Dr. L. W. Bristol came and opened an office for the practice of dentistry. For over half a century the doctor was prominent among the dental surgeons of Western New York. He still survives in his eighty-sixth year.

Joshua Wilber came in June, 1839, a lad in his fifteenth year, from Providence, Rhode Island. Four days and nights were spent in coming from New York City. From Albany to Utica the journey was made by rail, in an old-fashioned car. Albany was left in the morning and Utica reached late in the afternoon. From there the progress was by canal packet. Leaving Rochester in the morning, Lockport was reached by eleven o'clock the same night. He has spent all the intervening years (except two) in this place. At first, he worked at the tailor's trade; in 1849 learned the printer's art, for over 45 years he sold drugs and medicines,

using daily the scales and some of the bottles, etc., used by Dr. G. W. Merchant in his Lower Town Drug Store, the same store having lineally descended through four proprietors. He now occupies his time in looking up ancient local history, in the hope of compiling the chronicles of the city he loves so well.

Chauncey Keep came from Cortland County, New York.

Marvin H. Webber came from Cambria, New York.

Rev. P. Costello was the second Priest of St. John's Church.

High bridge was taken down. It was located just west of the Bissell (now Thompson) mill, over the canal. It is stated that no iron was used in its construction; wooden pegs being employed in place of spikes.

Seth Pierce was in business here prior to 1839.

Amos and S. B. Kinne settled at Rapids on Tonawanda Creek and marked out a village.

James Murray took the drug business established some years previously by Dr. Sharp.

William Bowne was in business here prior to 1839.

September 4, President Martin Van Buren visited Lockport on his tour through the country preparatory to the Presidential Election of 1840. He came from Niagara Falls on the old Lockport and Niagara Falls Railroad, and as soon as the train hove in sight around the hill at Gooding Street, cannon boomed in the Lower Town to welcome His Excellency. Several companies of uniformed militia were drawn up in front of the old Lockport House as he descended from the car, while bands played. He was immediately taken to a carriage and escorted by the military to the residence of Judge Washington Hunt, corner of Market and Adam Streets, where breakfast was served. A procession was then formed, and the distinguished guest was taken up Market Street hill to the American Hotel. On the upper piazza Judge Hiram Gardner welcomed him to Lockport, and the President replied. He was then conducted to the lower corridor, where citizens were introduced and shook his hand, passing in line before him. The same day he continued his journey east.

Origen Storrs came in 1839 from Seneca Falls, New York, being engaged for several years in merchandizing. He was Supervisor, Magistrate and Mayor of the city. He died in 1892.

E. Giddins, Canal Collector, salary \$800 a year.

October 7, village Trustees audited C. Leonard's bill, materials for building house for hearse and engine, \$17.10.

October 14, Trustees audited S. G. Hamilton's account, \$23.14, for repairing hearse.

Visit of Henry Clay, (informal.)

December 9, village Trustees ordered sidewalks on Main, Canal and Buffalo Streets cleaned of snow, etc., by 9 a. m., every day, Sundays excepted. Penalty, \$2.50 a day.

IN 1840.

Population of town, over 9,000.

Population of village, 6,088.

February 22, G. H. Boughton elected Canal Commissioner by the Legislature. Served three years.

March 24, Act passed by the Legislature authorizing appointment of a Police Justice to reside in the Village of Lockport. Signed by the Governor the same day. Chauncey Leonard appointed Police Justice.

June 13, Log Cabin built. "Great commotion." Logs hauled from every town in the county.

July 4, Corner Stone of New Locks laid.

July 31, Spalding's big mill burned at midnight.

August 12, village Trustees required dogs to be registered. Fee \$3 annually.

August 18, Canal Commissioners advertised for proposals for constructing Main Street bridge; truss work of wood, upon stone abutments.

September. McLeod arrested and placed in Lockport jail, charged with being concerned in sending the steam boat Caroline over Niagara Falls, during the Patriot War.

Ashery at junction of Chapel and Mill Streets.

Colonel H. W. Scovell re-appointed Postmaster.

Isaac Dole was here prior to 1840. Died 1851.

Cold Spring Cemetery incorporated.

Lockport Glass Works established 1840.

Samuel Works reelected State Senator, eighth Senatorial District, for four years.

April 24, Linseed Oil Mill, on Eighteen-Mile Creek, at Olcott Street. Skinner & Kniffen.

November, hanging of Douglass in jail; first execution in Niagara County, none since.

November, Washington Hunt elected to Congress on the Whig ticket.

First Universalist Church building, corner church and Ontario Streets, finished in the fall of 1843.

IN 1844.

Stone jail built by Messrs. Carpenter.

Jerem Angevine came.

Edward R. Graves married a daughter of Harvey W. Campbell, and spent most of his subsequent life in Lockport. He is still living.

Exchange Bank incorporated.

George Chrysler's Broom factory in operation.



A. STEWART GOODING. GEORGE S. GOODING. STEPHEN F. GOODING. SANFORD S. GOODING.

IN 1841.

1841, L. A. Spalding purchased the site of burned mill and built a larger; capacity 400 barrels flour daily.

O. C. Wright came.

January, Elias Ransom, Jr., appointed First Judge of Niagara County by the Governor.

February 27, L. A. Spalding gave an exhibition of reeling silk at the American.

June 23, Niagara County Agricultural Society organized at the Court House.

August 14, Governor Seward, with his staff, arrived in this village; after a brief stay, left by railroad for Buffalo, via. Niagara Falls.

August 21, State Senate visited Lockport to inspect public works now constructing in this vicinity.

September, north tier of New Locks completed.

November 30, Canal tolls to date, inclusive, \$90,239.36.

IN 1842-43.

January 7, Jesse Hawley died suddenly, in Cambria, aged 69 years. He claimed to be the originator of the route of the Erie Canal.

April 11, First Universalist Church organized.

1845, Population of Town, 9,314; population of village, 5,807.

Engraved map of village published by J. P. Haines.

Obadiah P. Hoag came from Somerset, where he settled in 1834. Died about 1888, in his ninety-fifth year.

Claudius L. Hoag came with his father, O. P. Hoag, and succeeded him in the possession of the farm now occupied by the Odd Fellows' Home. C. L. Hoag, in 1868, and his partner at that time in the nursery business, E. Wheaton Clark, succeeded by crossing in producing the famous Niagara grape, which has proved more valuable than any other Native White American grape. It was introduced by the Niagara Grape Company, who bought the stock in 1879. It has attained a popularity which has extended wherever grapes are known.

IN 1845.

Peter D. Walter came from Richfield Springs, New York, in 1845. He filled various official positions, among them City Treasurer, Clerk of Niagara County, and Mayor of the City of Lockport. He carried on the jewelry business, and was successful. He died in 1889.

Frank N. Wicker came in 1845. In 1861 he enlisted

in the Twenty-eighth Regiment, New York State Volunteers. In 1863 he was commissioned Lieutenant. After his discharge in 1865, he was appointed second in command of the land laying forces of the Atlantic cable, and at its completion returned to Lockport. In 1869 he was appointed special agent for Alaska, and Collector of Customs at Key West, Florida, in 1873. He is now a government official in New Orleans.

Henry Hoag came. He was for thirty-three years foreman in Carpenter's quarry.

November 7, Lockport and Buffalo telegraph completed. George H. Boughton first operator. This telegraph line was built soon after the trial line between Baltimore and Washington demonstrated the success of Prof Morse's invention. It was afterwards connected with the New York and Buffalo line.

IN 1846.

April 1, Niagara Cataract issued. Robert H. Stevens, Esq., Editor and Proprietor. "Barnburner."

April 18, Henry K. Hopkins, Esq., died. In 1832, H. K. Hopkins was married to Miss Julietta E. Buell, of Royalton; Rev. Mr. O'Flyng, the Methodist minister here, was the officiating clergyman. After the death of Mr. Hopkins, his widow remained in Lockport for a number of years, giving lessons in drawing and painting. She then removed to Connecticut, where she married Prosper Alexander. Upon his death Mrs. Alexander returned to Niagara County in 1861, and settled at Royalton Center. The entire journey from Connecticut was made in a two-wheeled chaise, with her adopted daughter, then a mere child, a canary bird and a trunk. The daughter is now Mrs. Charles A. Warren, of the Town of Lockport. Mrs. Alexander died February 2, 1899, at the age of eighty-three years. She was buried in the Mark Hopkins lot, Cold Springs Cemetery, beside her first husband.

John Van Horn came, and took the office of County Clerk. He made his home in Lockport ever afterwards, and was a prominent man and faithful official until his death in 1880.

Levi Rogers, bookseller, commenced business in a small store No. 15 Main Street. He was an old man, and was soon succeeded by his son, Samuel Rogers and when the Ballou block was erected on south side Main Street, removed to No. 60. Mr. Rogers sold to William H. O'Keefe, who had been his assistant.

Hon. N. Dayton, retired from the Circuit Judgeship, by the new Constitution of 1846, and resumed the practice of law in Lockport, having for his partner, John T. Murray, Esq. In 1845 he was candidate for the office of County Clerk, on the Democratic ticket. Although there was a majority of thousands normally against him, yet he was elected by a majority of hundreds. He died suddenly in 1859.

A line of Daily Stages to Batavia was operated in 1846 by K. Ferren, connecting with the cars at that place.

LOCKPORT ACADEMY.

As early as 1835 measures were taken to establish an Academy in Lockport. Citizens interested in higher education banded together and subscribed for that purpose. Four lots were purchased on west side of Pine Street, south of La Grange, for \$900. A payment of \$300 was made, the balance to be paid in three yearly instalments. A committee was appointed to get information in regard to buildings, cost, etc., but it was soon evident that nothing could

be accomplished with the meagre finances in sight. In 1843 the interest was revived, and in 1846 meetings were held to decide upon a plan of action. In the latter year the name of S. Caverno appears as an influential factor in the movement. In November, 1846, notice was published of an application to be made to the Legislature to authorize the Trustees of the Lockport Academy to dispose of the Academy lot. A meeting was held at Safford's Hall, September 17, 1846, at which a committee of thirteen was appointed "to mature a system of education for this village." At the head of this committee was S. Caverno. A meeting of citizens was called at Franklin Hall, October 30, 1846, to hear the report of the committee mentioned above. An act was passed by the Legislature in 1847 creating the Board of Education, and providing for the establishment of the Union School.

November, daily stages to Buffalo. Through in four hours. Connect at Lockport with stages to Rochester.

Benjamin Carpenter elected Member of Assembly.

Rev. J. M. Fuller, pastor of First M. E. Church.

IN 1847.

March 31, Act in relation to Common Schools in the village of Lockport passed by the Legislature.

C. A. Lowber's Stave Mill, corner Van Buren and Adam Street.

June, Hiram Gardner elected County Judge.

G. D. La Mont, County Superintendent of Common Schools.

Lockport Daily Courier started in 1847.

Patrick Griffin an apprentice to the mason's trade with Simpson & Turner.

Exchange Bank building, corner Main and Pine Streets, erected.

E. S. Mack's "Empire Block," northwest corner Main and Pine Streets, built by Simpson & Turner.

Stone building on east side Pine Street, used for several years past as Police Station No. 1, built in 1847. Originally Baright's carriage shop.

Otis Hathaway died, aged 59 years.

Samuel Wright, printer, studied law in early life and was admitted to the Bar in Central New York, practicing his profession in Utica for a number of years. He came to Lockport about 1840, and was soon after Editor and Proprietor of the Niagara Democrat and Lockport Balance. He, however, preferred to withdraw from the bustle of business, and opened a job office, doing all the work himself, up to the time of his death. He was a member of the Board of Education for fifteen years. July 1, 1870, the body of Mr. Wright was found in the canal, and it was supposed that he committed suicide while under temporary aberration of mind.

James Murray, druggist, died. His son Henry succeeded to the business.

Professor Hurlburt, teacher of penmanship, "Long Wharf."

November, wheat \$1.25 per bushel.

IN 1848.

An Act abolishing Police Justice for Village of Lockport took effect.

July 5, Union School opened. On July 4 exercises were held in the lecture room, and an address was delivered by Frederick R. Lord, the Principal-elect. School work commenced on the fifth.

The first Board of Education was composed as follows: Sullivan Caverno, William G. McMaster, Joseph T. Bellah,



DR. ANDREW R. FERGUSON.



HON. ISAAC H. BABCOCK.



ALBERT F. BROWN.



DAVID MAXWELL.



CHARLES H. SCHAP.



C. M. GARDNER.



DR. CHARLES N. PALMER.

Silas H. Marks, Isaac C. Colton, John S. Wolcott, Edwin L. Boardman, Nathan Dayton, Samuel Works, Jonathan L. Woods, Lyman A. Spalding and Hiram Gardner. Only one member of the Board survives, Isaac C. Colton, Esq., whose ninetieth birthday was in April, 1902. Mr. Colton resides with his brother, Rev. W. Colton, in Toledo, Ohio.

Alva Hill elected Sheriff in 1848.

Steam Saw Mill of Stevens, Doty & Pease, Market Street, built 1848.

Drs. Shuler & Gould, (John S. Shuler, William B. Gould.)

1849 AND 1850.

1849, Orsamus Turner appointed Postmaster.

Rev. Reuben Winchell removed from Lockport to Tully, New York, and died there a year after.

March 4, Hon. Washington Hunt appointed Comptroller of the State of New York by Governor Fish.

General Orange Mansfield built steam saw mill at Rapids.



MR. AND MRS. SAMUEL MULHAIR.

A. A. Boyce of Lockport, appointed Clerk of United States Supreme Court. Residence, Utica.

Red Bird Line of Canal Packets. Opposition. Captain Dan H. Bromley, a popular commander.

Pierce, Williams & Co.'s Lockport and Rochester Express. Tri-weekly.

Warner H. McCoy opened bookbindery 1849. Still in the business.

O. Turner published "History of the Holland Purchase."

G. H. Utley, Rapids; Horace Cummings, Rapids.

William F. Carl, born in Town of Lockport, 1849.

June, Solomon Parmelee appointed Postmaster. Removed office to middle store in Boughton's block and procured new fixtures.

1850, population of Town about 12,000; population of Village, 8,861.

Protection Fire Engine Company organized.

Samuel Works appointed Superintendent of this section of Canal.

Warren Bristol, a young lawyer, went from Lockport to St. Paul, Minn., in 1850. In a short time he commenced the practice of law in Hennepin Company, where Minneapolis now stands, and was one of the committee that named that marvelous city. He removed soon after to Red Wing. He was elected District Attorney of Goodhue County, and afterwards Probate Judge. In 1864 he was a member of the national convention at Baltimore, which renominated Abraham Lincoln. In 1872 he was appointed by President Grant, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of New Mexico. He was three times reappointed by successive Presidents. His health, never robust, perceptibly failed, and his death took place January 12, 1890. Mr. Bristol came from Minnesota in 1854 to marry Miss Louisa C. Armstrong, whose family was among the pioneers of Lower Lockport. Miss Armstrong, like Mr. Bristol, had been a teacher in the public schools of Lockport. In 1894 the widow of Judge Bristol brought his remains to Lockport; they were deposited in her family lot in Cold Spring Cemetery. She then returned to New Mexico, and is still a resident there.

John Miller came to Town of Lockport.

May 23, James G. Porter was elected Mayor of the Village.

July 4, celebration at the New Gothic Hotel, on Lockport and Cambria Plank Road.

Western Band organized.

July 24, village Trustees passed an Ordinance against the running at large of hogs and geese.

September 2, John Jenny was appointed Chief Engineer of the Fire Department by the Village Trustees.

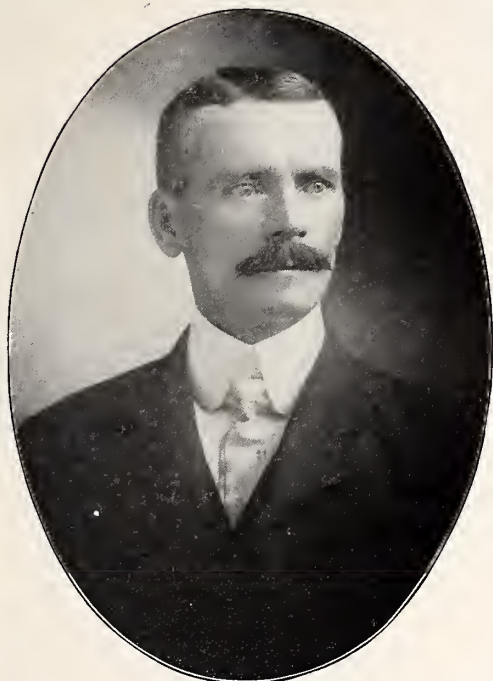
October 1, board of Trustees of the Village ordered a reservoir built in Main Street, opposite the American, eighty-five feet long, twelve feet wide and eight feet deep, to be filled by a hydrant at Spalding's mill. An iron pipe was laid from the mill through Pine and Main Streets to the Reservoir. This was to supply water to quench fires; but it proved unreliable. It leaked badly, and generally contained no water; especially at times when a fire was raging.

WASHINGTON HUNT ELECTED GOVERNOR.

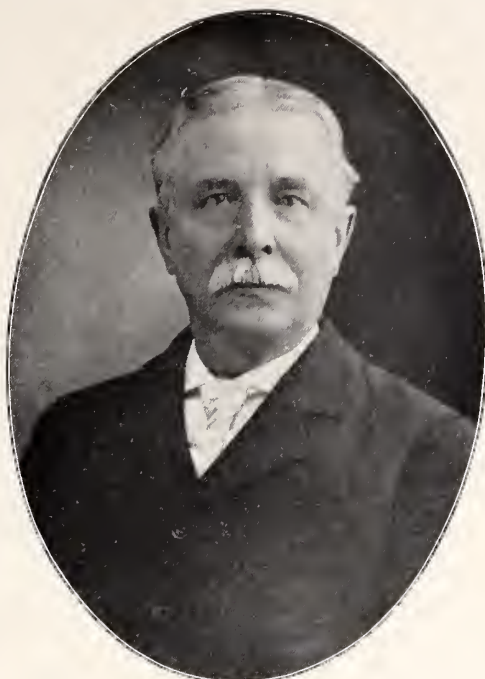
Hon. Washington Hunt elected Governor over Horatio Seymour by plurality of 262 votes. In 1852 he was defeated by Governor Seymour. This closed his official life. Returning to Lockport, he purchased the suburban residence north of the village (now the Home for the Friendless,) where he resided until 1861, when he transferred his home to New York City. He died February 2, 1867. His body was brought to Lockport and the funeral held in Grace Church on the sixth. Interment at Glenwood.

November 7, the block on the corner of Main and Cottage Streets, so long occupied by "Merchants" drug store, was burned.

Having gone over the first half of the Nineteenth Century and made mention of some of the pioneer people and events in the Town of Lockport, want of space admonishes the necessity of closing the review. Many incidents of the succeeding fifty years might come under the head of pioneer experience, but enough has been cited to give a glimpse of the early trials and also of the later successes of the courageous men and women who have preceded us.



MARTIN S. JUDGE.



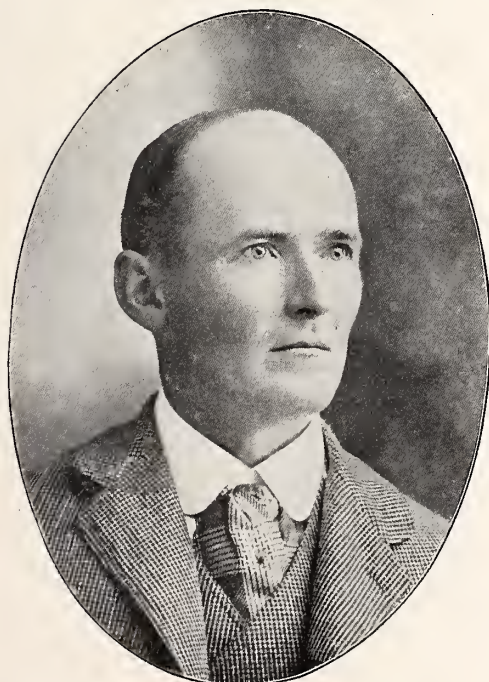
S. CURT LEWIS.



J. H. PERHAMUS.



J. A. MARTIN.



JOSEPH W. TURNER.



W. E. HUSTON.



D. A. HIXSON.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL MENTION.

Brief mention is made of the following, although their principal record comes after the close of the foregoing chronicle:

Potter Palmer, in 1851, opened a store at No. 6 Main Street, Ringueburg block. His stock consisted of dry goods, groceries, shoes, glassware, etc., as was then the custom of trade. He did a fair business, but felt that in a wider field he could accomplish much more. In 1852 he sold his store in Lockport and went to Chicago, with a capital, it is said, of less than \$6,000. His sales the first year in Chicago were \$73,000. In 1865 he retired from mercantile life, holding more than \$2,200,000 in government bonds. In thirteen years his sales had risen from \$73,000 to \$7,000,000 a year. He died at Chicago, May 4, 1902. His fortune was estimated at \$25,000,000.

Mrs. Belva A. Lockwood is another person in whom Lockport can claim an interest, she having been a resident here many years ago. The place of her nativity was the neighboring Town of Royalton; time, 1830. Her maiden name was Bennett. In 1848 she married Uriah H. McNall, a young farmer of Royalton, who died in 1853. After the death of her husband, Mrs. McNall graduated in Genesee College, taking her second degree in Syracuse University. In 1857 she was Preceptress of the Union School here; Prof. E. A. Charlton, being the Principal. The advertisement of the Board of Education reads: "Mrs. McNall is a graduate of Genesee College, and is recommended as a lady of more than ordinary ability and success in teaching." In 1868 she married Rev. Ezekiel Lockwood, a Baptist minister, and at one time a Chaplain of the Second District Regiment, at Washington, D. C. She graduated to the National University Law School and was admitted to the bar in 1873, and to the United States Supreme Court in 1879. Dr. Lockwood died in Washington, of general debility, in 1877.

Mrs. Helen Holmes Charlton is worthy of mention in this connection, being a native of Lockport, and a daughter of a pioneer, Hon. Alfred Holmes. She was among the first students at the Union School, and was still there when Prof. Edwin A. Charlton, of New Hampshire, came to take charge of the Institution in 1857. He remained until the spring of 1861. In 1862 Prof. Charlton and Miss Helen Holmes were married in Lockport. Prof. Charlton continued teaching in different places, the last being Platteville, Wisconsin, where he presided over the First State Normal School of Wisconsin, when he retired, and in 1879 purchased the Broadhead, (Wis.) Independent, a weekly paper, which largely prospered under the editorship of himself and wife. Mr. Charlton died in 1896. Since that time his widow has edited the sheet with marked ability and has been the senior member of the publication firm.

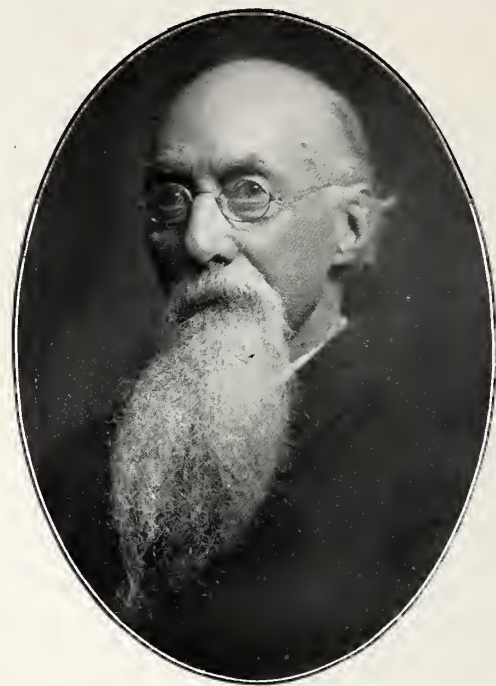
Recollections of Early Days.

BY AN OLD TIMER.

"LUCY LONG."

In the old packet days, previous to the opening of the Rochester, Lockport and Niagara Falls Railway, June 30, 1852, Lockport had four packets each day, two from the east and two from the west. The one due from the east at 10 a. m. made connections with the Lockport & Niagara Falls Railroad and there was always a crowd on hand to witness its arrival. Sometimes it was late. There was a character always on hand named John Moye, better known

as "Lucy Long," as he was continually singing or whistling that song. He was a peanut peddler, and quite a mimic. When the packet was late he would cross the canal and get behind the piles of stones, always piled there for shipment in those days. Placing his hands up to his mouth he would imitate the packet horn so perfectly that people in waiting at the Lockport House across the street would rush out and



JAMES B. HILL.

over to the dock only to find it was "Lucy Long," and "Lucy" on the towpath giving them the laugh. Many will remember "Lucy Long."

HAD BEEN RETAINED BY THE OTHER PARTY.

Old timers recollect Robert Stevens, the lawyer, wit and wag. In the early forties he was President of the Board of Trustees of the then Village of Lockport. During the winter of 1842-3 a series of revival meetings were held in the old First Presbyterian Church, by the great revivalist Burchard. One morning Burchard called on Robert Stevens at his office in lower Main Street and introduced himself, saying he was engaged on the Lord's side, and would very much like to have Mr. Stevens engaged also, as being President of the Village, it would have great weight, etc. Bob sat with his feet up on the box stove, smoking his cigar, and finally said: "Yes, Mr. Burchard, that is true, but I am compelled to say I have received a retainer from the other party."

OPENING OF THE ERIE ROAD.

The opening of the Lockport & Buffalo branch of the New York and Erie Railroad, September 15, 1879, was an important event to Lockport. It created a great change in freight rates and was of decided advantage to shippers and receivers as well. Freight that had been twenty-eight cents per 100 pounds between Buffalo and Lockport dropped to six cents and Lockport received the benefit. Lockport was bonded for \$100,000 to build the road; the bonds have been paid, and now the International Railway Company are running their cars to almost every manufactory in the city thereby giving them double opportunities to ship their products by rail. The first train on the line from Buffalo to Lockport was officered by the following: W. J. Jackman, Conductor; Marshall G. Burton, Engineer, and Dell Stillman, Baggage-man.

The second train was H. S. Chapman, Conductor;



JOHN R. EARL.



HENRY HULSHOFF.



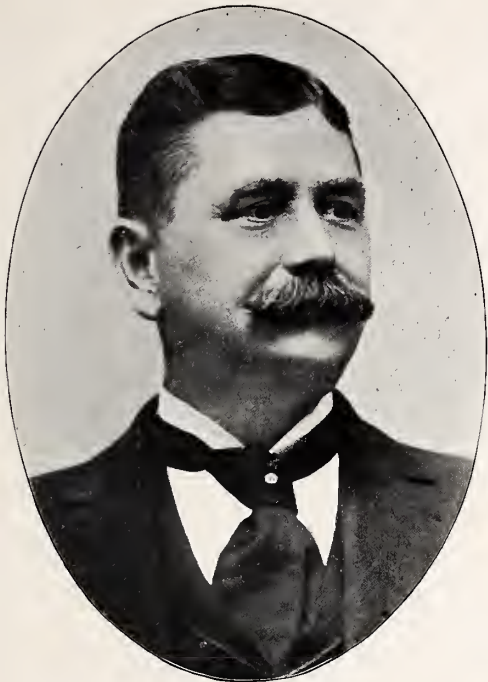
CHARLES T. RAYMOND.



WM. JACKSON.



J. FRANKLIN RYAN.



HENRY TIMANUS.



A. I. KNOWLES.

Frank Eastman, Engineer; Frank Baker, Baggage-man.

Messrs. Jackman and Chapman are now prominent business men of Lockport. Mr. Jackman is proprietor of the Niagara House and H. S. Chapman the executive head of the Field Force Pump Company.

A FIFTY DOLLAR BET—STAGE COACH VS. RAILROAD.

The Lockport & Niagara Falls Railroad was built in 1836 and opened for traffic in 1837. It was at first operated by horse power. In 1839 the first locomotives were placed in commission. They were second hand, from the Albany and Schenectady Railroad, and were named the "DeWitt Clinton" and "Tuscarora." At this time there was a great rivalry between the stage coach and railroads. The railroad ran a spur from the junction about three miles south of Lewiston down the mountain. This branch was always a horse railroad. One morning at Lewiston, the late George W. Rector, who ran a stage coach from Lewiston to Niagara Falls, and Alva Hill, conductor on the main line, were in Lewiston together, both soliciting for passengers. They became engaged in a heated argument as to the superiority of their respective lines. Finally a bet was made of \$50 as to which should land his passengers at Niagara Falls first.

The distance by rail was ten miles, by coach seven miles. An even start was made from the front of the Frontier House. Up Main Street they went on a gallup, then began the ascent of the mountain. When Hill reached the junction his steam horse was there. Hurrying the transfer of passengers and baggage, he mounted the engine himself as engineer and steamed away at the rate of twelve miles an hour.

At what was afterward Suspension Bridge, the roads crossed each other. For a mile or so before reaching the crossing they ran almost parallel. Rector could be seen across the field flinging his old "Kadijah," while Hill was hurrying his firemen to stoke in the wood. It was everybody's race at this time, but just before the crossing there was a curve and small embankment. The engine, snorting and puffing, jumped the track and Rector, yelling like a Camanche Indian, crowded ahead of the engine and landed his load at the Falls first and won the fifty.

RACE WITH THE LOCOMOTIVES.

When the locomotives first began to run on the railroad there used to be much racing between the Indians and their ponies and the steam horses. Just east of the White Church the main road and railroad ran side by side for a mile or more. When the train came thundering along ten or twelve miles an hour the Indians were generally ready for a race. Sometimes a dozen were on the field. It was fun to see them, and hear them whoop. For a short distance they could outrun the iron horse.

THE OLD NIAGARA COUNTY COURT HOUSE.

This old building, which was torn down in 1892 to make room for the erection of the new jail, will recall to the minds of many old citizens, and especially our attorneys, many interesting and famous cases that have been tried within its walls. The old building has been closely interwoven with the history of our county.

When it was first proposed to erect a Court House in this county a great deal of trouble was encountered in selecting a site, but Messrs. James McKeown, Abraham Keyser and Julius Hatch, the commission appointed by Governor De Witt Clinton in the fall of 1821, selected the present site and the building was completed during the fall

and winter of 1824. The first term of court was held therein in January, 1825.

When it was first built, and for many years thereafter, it was used for both a jail and court house, the lower floor containing the cells, and it was not until 1844, or thereafter, that an addition was erected. The cells were arranged in rows on both sides of the main hall.

In the year 1825 the bar of Niagara County was composed of the following: John Birdsall, William Hotchkiss, Z. H. Colvin, J. F. Mason, Bates Cooke, Hiram Gardiner, Elias Ransom, Sebirde Dodge, Theodore Chapin, Harvey Leonard and Augustus Porter.

Within the memory of the "oldest inhabitant" the subjoined were the county Judges who held court there: Silas Hopkins, Robert Fleming, Nathan Dayton, Washington Hunt, Elias Ransom, Jonathan D. Woods, Hiram Gardiner, Levi F. Bowen, Alfred Holmes, George D. Lamont, Frank Brundage, Cyrus E. Davis, Alvah K. Potter and David Millar.

Within its walls have echoed decisions which affected the life of the Masonic fraternity, and many have listened to the forensic eloquence of such men as Washington Hunt, Hiram Gardiner, John C. Spencer of Utica; William S. Farrell, George D. Lamont, M. M. Southworth, Alfred Holmes, James Franklin Fitts, Henry A. Carter, Daniel S. Dickenson, Sanford Church, Abraham Stewart, John L. Bush, Abijah H. Moss, John L. Curtenius, Sherburne B. Piper, Cyrus A. Davis, Charles H. Piper, S. Eli Cook and William L. Marcy, afterwards Governor of the State, and who presided at the trial of Eli Bruce and others for the abduction of Morgan. This was undoubtedly the most interesting and famous case ever tried in Niagara County. Elias Ransom, Jr., who was then District Attorney, assisted by John C. Spencer, of Utica, conducted the prosecution.

Another case, but little less known than the one above described, but which nearly involved this country in a war with Great Britain, was that of Alexander McLeod, whom, it was alleged, "cut out" the side wheel steamer "Caroline" at Schlosser landing, in December, 1837, and after setting her on fire, sent it over the falls of Niagara. McLeod was arrested on a charge of murdering Captain Dufree, the commander of the "Caroline," but was acquitted.

The old court room, as first constructed, was on the second floor, and the bench was on the south side and faced to the north. That was the bench on which Judge Marcy sat in the famous Morgan-Masonic trial, when he fortunately, or unfortunately, tore his trousers. At that early day, Judges literally sat upon a bench instead of chairs. The projecting nail which did the business was no doubt lost some time in the early Forties when the old court room was reconstructed and enlarged, and the bench placed at the east end of the room, fronting the west.

There were but a few murder cases tried in the old court house. The first conviction was that of Douglas, for killing Cunningham. His attorneys were Washington Hunt and Henry A. Carter; Prosecuting Attorney, Alfred Holmes. Douglas was convicted and hung in the old jail in November, 1842, being the only man ever sentenced and hung in the county. Another case somewhat celebrated was the trial of Claudius L. Lloyd for the murder of———Thody in 1862. He was defended by William S. Farnell. M. M. Southworth was the District Attorney. Lloyd was convicted and sentenced by the court to be confined in Auburn prison (as was the law at that time) for one year, then to be returned to Niagara County and to be hung. Before the



GEORGE P. PENFOLD.



PETER H. M'PARLIN.



FRANK M. BREDELL.



R. NATHANIEL ROBERTS.



F. C. CARR.



MICHAEL S. NILAND.

expiration of the year, the Governor, Horatio Seymour, commuted the sentence to imprisonment for life. Subsequently it was commuted to fifteen years, and then again to four years.

Development of Lockport.

Mr. Wilber carries his record through the year 1850, from which point the recollection of many of our citizens will trace the trend of events. Since that time the city has undergone a gradual and solid development that has been caused by the increase in the manufacturing operations of our citizens.

POWER.

Eight thousand horse power is the force developed by the surplus descent of water, the fall of which must be accommodated in some other way than through the bed of the canal. Four thousand horse power is developed along the raceway and the tunnel and four thousand more is utilized from the overflow through Eighteen-Mile Creek and power from which is utilized all along its course until it winds its way into Lake Ontario.

It is claimed that power from Niagara Falls, which is dispensed freely at Lockport, is obtained in Lockport at as low a cost as at the City of Niagara Falls. Consequently, it will be seen, that between the power from the overflow at the locks and from electricity transmitted from Niagara there is cheap and ample power in the City of the Locks for all her industries.

HYDRAULIC POWER COMPANY.

The Hydraulic Power Company was organized in its present form in 1857. Previous to its organization the power was owned by various parties. When the canal was put through, the officials leased to the firm of Kennedy & Hatch the surplus water discharged from above the locks to the level below. This lease passed through different hands until it came into possession of Governor Washington Hunt, with whom ex-Governor and Senator William L. Marcy was subsequently interested. These notable men organized the Hydraulic Power Company. They acquired full possession of the lease, put in more capital and developed the power through the race to its full extent. Previously there was only a little ditch four feet deep, which froze solidly in winter. They then proceeded to secure tenants, and their improvements and efforts all along the line resulted in considerable development to the city. The administration of the company, while highly advantageous for Lockport, was not a paying venture for the company and paid no dividends for twenty-five years.

The stock of the company is divided into 1,520 shares, of which the city owns 100, which were left to the corporation by Governor Hunt. On the race the Electric Company uses some 300 horse power at the new Dickinson building as auxiliary to the power they get from Niagara Falls. The other holders of power from the Hydraulic Company, further down the race, are Grigg Brothers, Thompson Milling Company, Trevor Manufacturing Company, Boston & Lockport Block Works and the Franklin Mills Company. The Franklin Mills are supplying the Empire Manufacturing Company and are lighting a few other plants with their dynamo. On the tunnel, on the other side of the canal, there are three companies supplied with power by the arrangement with the Hydraulic Company, the Holly Company, the Richmond Manufacturing Company and

the Lockport Pulp Company. The city is also supplied with power to run the city's pumping station.

OTHER WATER RIGHTS.

It should be remembered that there were some minor rights that were not acquired by the Hydraulic Power Company. These were held by Norman & Evans, in regular descent from Lyman A. Spalding, ancestor of Mr. Evans. These rights were for power along the box race, which has now been done away with, though the power has been turned over to Charles E. Dickinson, whose new building sets right above the abandoned race and gets the first touch of power of any establishment on the present race. The firm of Norman & Evans get from Mr. Dickinson the proper return in electric power, which they supply to their customers as under the old arrangement.

The following firms secure power from Eighteen Mile Creek, on the other side of the canal, the right to which they individually acquired years ago, the Hydraulic Company never having possessed any title to power on the creek: Traders' Paper Company, Lockport Paper Company, Niagara Paper Company, Westerman & Company, the United Indurated Fiber Company and the Cowles Aluminum & Electric Smelting Company. The Fiber Company only operate their pulp mill by water power.

THE MILLING INDUSTRY.

The milling industry was naturally the earliest of any importance that flourished in Lockport. Otis Hathaway operated a mill about 1824 on Eighteen-Mile Creek, where it passes under the Erie Canal. In 1826 Lyman A. Spalding built his seven story mill. It was burned in 1840 and Mr. Spalding built another on the site, larger than the first. N. H. Wolf purchased the mill in 1857 and it was burned the following year. The "new" Spalding mill was erected in 1858, and after passing through various hands it finally came in possession of Thornton & Chester and finally of George T. Chester. The mill subsequently burned again and the fine "electrical building" of today was erected on the site by Charles E. Dickinson.

The present Thompson mill has a history. Edward Bissell erected a mill on the present site in 1828. In 1837 it was sold to C. G. Jones, and afterward to W. P. Daniels, Douglas & Jackson, and others. In 1853 it was burned to the ground. In the following year the present large building was erected on the ruins. In 1868 Saxton & Thompson purchased it for \$50,000 and afterward enlarged and improved it. The officers of the Thompson Milling Company, who are the present owners of the business, are as follows: George B. Thompson, President; A. L. Draper, Vice President; Arthur T. Poole, Secretary and H. M. Witbeck, Treasurer.

The building that houses the "Franklin Mills" was erected in 1833 and was used as a cotton factory until 1841, at which time Washington Hunt became the sole owner. The Niagara Manufacturing Company bought it the next year and continued its operation as a cotton factory until 1854. B. C. Moore, Washington Hunt and Henry Walbridge afterward purchased the building and converted it into a flouring mill. In 1864 Hiram Finch took the management and subsequently the ownership and increased the capacity to 500 barrels daily. In 1872 the property was conveyed to A. S. Beverly, N. P. Currier, J. Carl Jackson and William S. Camp. Charles E. Dickinson is the present President and Treasurer and Edward H. Boynton, Secretary.



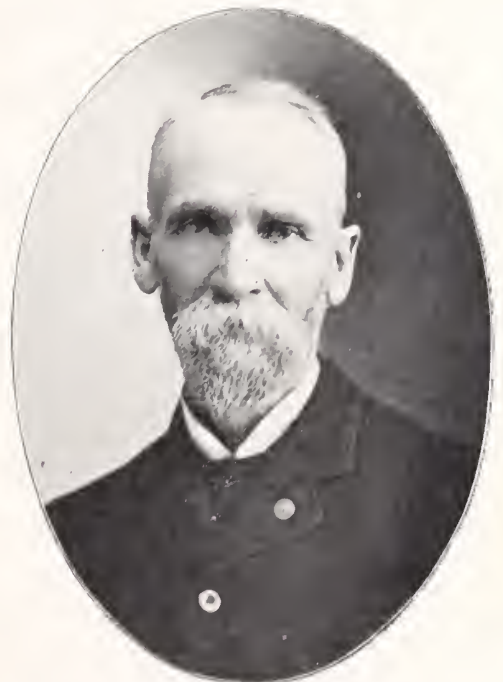
HON. JOHN H. CLARK.



CHARLES W. HATCH.



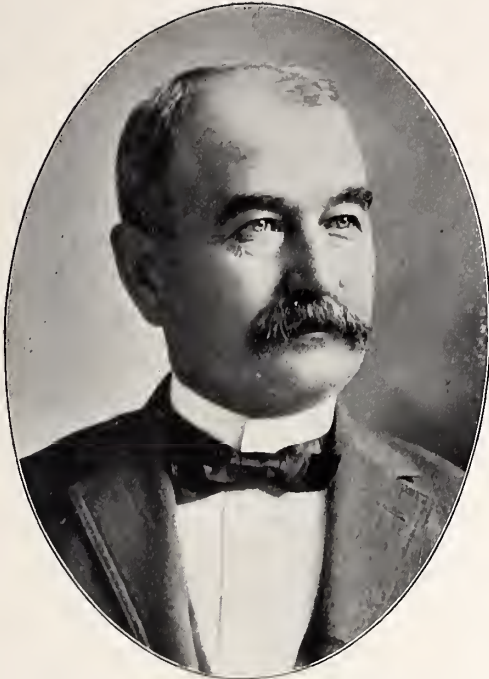
HON. JOHN A. MERRITT.



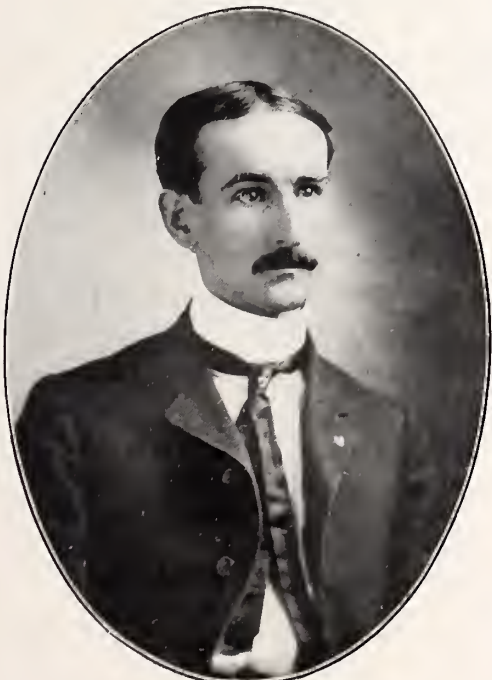
JOHN R. BAYLISS.



EDWARD G. PARKER.



SAMUEL H. PETTIT.



WILLIAM HOOPER.

The mill now operated by Grigg Brothers was built in 1863 by David Cope.

THREE LUSTY PIONEERS.

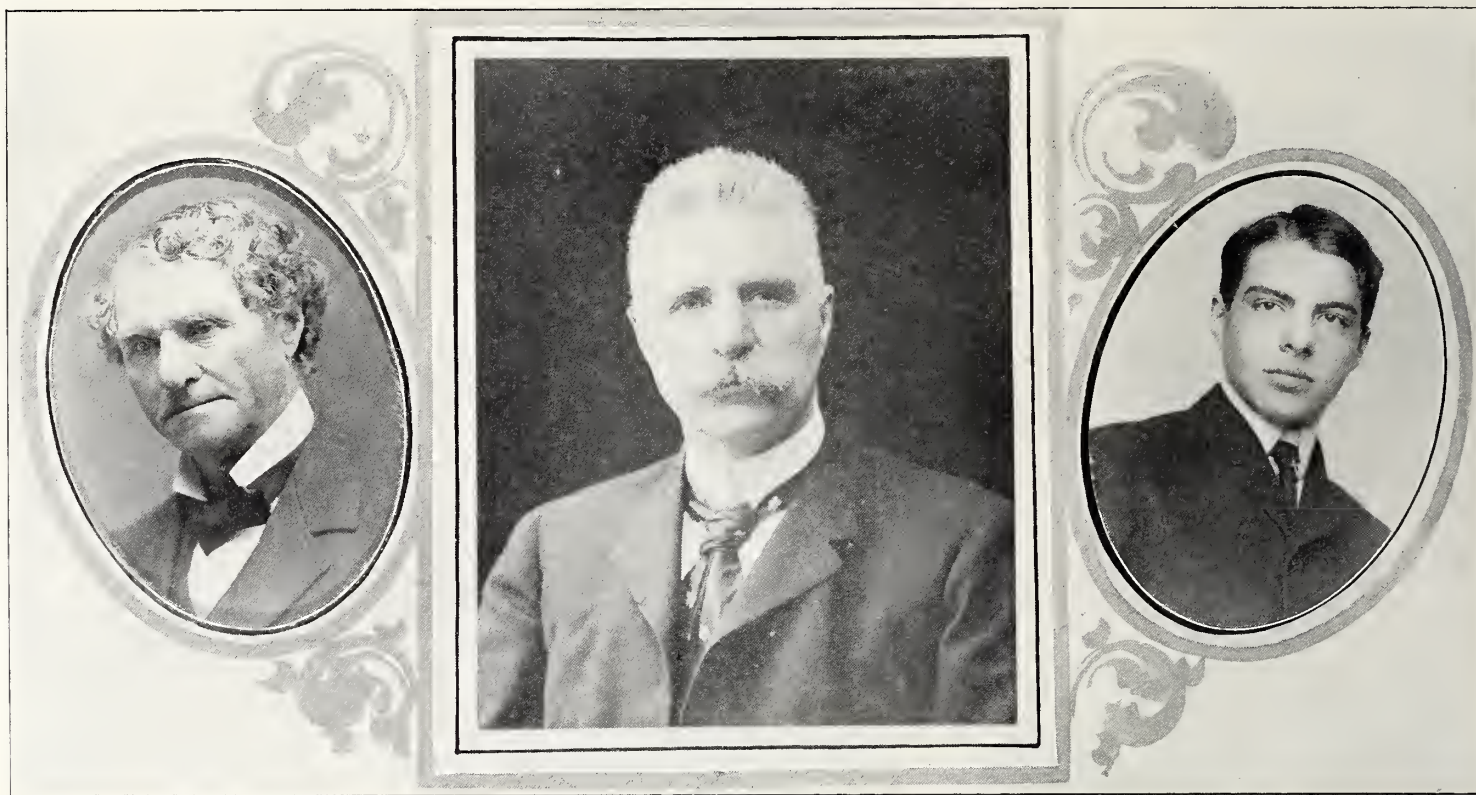
W. W. and F. N. Trevor and Jesse Peterson are the pioneer manufacturers of Lockport living today. W. W. Trevor started in the business that is now carried on by the Trevor Manufacturing Company about 1865. This industry had been established by Joseph B. and George S. Trevor in 1858, when the building now occupied by the company was erected. George S. retired about the year 1865, his interest being purchased by his brother, William W. A few years afterward Joseph B. Trevor died and Francis N. Trevor assumed his interest. William W. Trevor is President of the Company and F. N. Trevor, Secretary and Treasurer. This business, both in the personnel of the proprietors and the character of the output, has been

consisting of M. H. Tarbox and Jesse Peterson. Later Mr. Peterson sold his interest and the Boston & Lockport Block Company was formed, of which Albert D. Bossom is President; Frank Gebbie, Vice President; M. H. Tarbox, Secretary and Treasurer. Elbert D. Whitney is manager at the Lockport factory.

Several years ago three of the heads of departments of the Boston & Lockport Block Company organized the Western Block Company, with a factory on lower Market Street, which they have enlarged within a year. Robert Madden is President and Superintendent; William E. Shaw, Vice President and Secretary and E. J. McGrath, Treasurer.

UNITED INDURATED FIBRE COMPANY.

The site of the first paper mill in Lockport was the present pulp works of the United Indurated Fibre Company,



GILBERT PETERSON.

JESSE PETERSON.

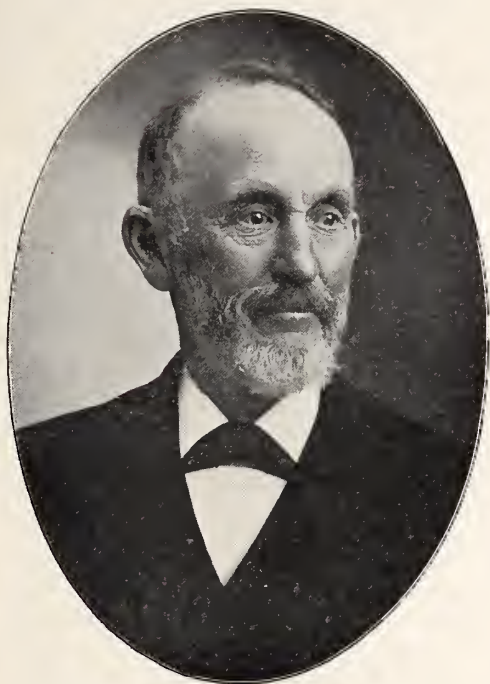
JESSE DUDLEY PETERSON.

more permanent than that of any other manufacturing plant in Lockport. The Trevor brothers have been together nearly thirty-five years in active business life and they produce many of the devices that were burned out in earlier days. The saw works now operated by William Cocker were established in 1869 by William Cocker and W. W. and F. N. Trevor, under the firm name of Cocker & Trevor. These saws are used on the machinery turned out by the Trevor Company. Although the partnership has been dissolved and Mr. Cocker operates the business alone, a good part of the product is now used on the Trevor machines.

TACKLE BLOCKS.

Forty two years ago William W. Trevor began to manufacture labels in a portion of the building now operated by the Trevor Manufacturing Company. He continued to pursue this business for five years, when in 1864 it was merged into the business of Trevor & Penfield, who started, in a building on the site of the present City Hall, to manufacture tackle blocks. Mr. Trevor sold out his interest a year or two later to E. A. Martin, who, with C. R. Penfield, organized the firm of Penfield, Martin & Gaskill. This firm was succeeded in 1874 by M. H. Tarbox & Company,

which was operated by A. F. Brown. After a time this mill was dismantled and turned into a pulp mill, which is now the pulp mill of the United Indurated Fibre Company and connected with their extensive plant. After his withdrawal from the block business, Jesse Peterson began to interest himself actively in the manufacture of fibre ware, and used this pulp mill to supply his raw material. In 1886 the United Indurated Fibre Company was organized by Jesse Peterson, Henry G. Cordley and Charles E. Folger. In 1893 the present company was incorporated under the same name and the great plant of the company was built, where 250 hands are constantly employed. The present company is a consolidation of some half dozen concerns that were located in various sections of the country and receptacles of all kinds are made from wood pulp and from "fibrotta" stock. The present officers of the company are Jesse Peterson, President and General Manager; Alonzo N. Burbank, Vice President; Henry G. Gordley, Secretary; James E. Hayes, Treasurer; Charles E. Folger, Assistant Treasurer. William H. Baker, a skilled designer, and Cyrus D. Ormiston, Superintendent and Inventor, are among the company's valued officers.



R. F. PIERSON.



FRED R. OLIVER.



GEORGE W. POUND.



REV. G. FUCHS.



CHARLES A. WARREN.



C. E. ERNEST.



WILLIAM BUCHANAN.

THE PAPER MILLS.

Neil Brothers & Brooks was the title of another firm engaged in the manufacture of straw wrapping paper years ago on the site of the present Niagara mill. They were burned out, but rebuilt and afterward failed. Willis H. Howes, then an official with the Lockport Paper Company, conceived the idea of organizing a company to continue the paper business on different lines, and interesting a number of citizens organized the Niagara Paper Company to manufacture high grade cover papers and similar products. Francis N. Trevor is the President; Hon. John A. Merritt, Secretary and Treasurer; Willis H. Howes, Manager.

The Lockport Paper Company was incorporated in 1884 with Charles Keep, President; W. H. Howes, Secretary and Wallace I. Keep, Treasurer. The plant was enlarged in 1893. George G. Moss is now President and Wallace I. Keep Secretary and Treasurer.

The organization of the Traders' Paper Company is the most important recent event in the local industrial field. It was incorporated in 1895 with a capital of \$300,000. Box boards constitute the principal product. A large sulphite mill has been built in addition to the plant proper and some 300 hands are employed. This plant has been merged into the United Box Board & Paper Company, with a capital of \$30,000,000. James A. Roberts, former President of the Traders', is the President of the Consolidated Company; Augustus H. Ivins, former Manager of the Traders', is the General Manager of the United Company and Eugene M. Ashley, of Lockport, is Counsel. The Lockport Pulp Company, which was controlled by the Traders' Company, has also been merged into the new company.

THE HOLLY SHOPS.

The Holly Manufacturing Company was incorporated in 1859 with \$20,000 capital, which has been increased from time to time to \$1,000,000. The original stockholders were T. T. Flagler, Charles Keep, Silas H. Marks, L. F. Bowen, Washington Hunt, G. W. Bowen and Birdsall Holly. During the entire period of its incorporation the company has constantly manufactured pumps and pumping engines. The "Holly system" of water supply and fire protection for cities and village is the invention of Birdsall Holly, whose purpose in planning Lockport works was to provide fire protection without the use of portable engines. Success in that led to the combination of domestic supply with fire protection through the same system of pipes, by the addition of suitable pumping apparatus and regulators. The feasibility of the combined service was first demonstrated in the Auburn, New York, water works, in 1866, and now it is in successful operation in over 470 cities and towns.

The Holly Company, which has since been merged into the International Pump Company, is officered as follows: Hon. T. E. Ellsworth, President; E. C. Lufkin, Vice President and General Manager; N. M. Clark, Secretary; Max Nathan, Treasurer.

EXHAUST STEAM HEATING PURPOSES.

The American District Steam Company was organized in 1881. Their present business consists principally of the use of exhaust steam from electric and other power stations for heating purposes through underground steam mains. The company employ some 100 hands at their plants in Lockport and North Tonawanda. The present officers are Isaac H. Babcock, President; W. D. Hall, Treasurer; Charles R. Bishop, Secretary and General Manager. The present building of the company on the east side of Elm Street in Lockport was erected about three years ago. Their large

mill at North Tonawanda has been recently completed.

THE CANNING BUSINESS.

The canning business of Lockport was founded in 1872-3, by Frank Gebbie, on the present site of the "linen mill." In 1880, the business was moved to "Lower Town." In 1877, a copartnership was formed, consisting of Frank Gebbie, M. P. B. and M. R. Cooke and Z. W. More, under the name of "The Niagara Preserving Company." M. P. B. Cooke moved from Camden, New York, to Lockport, June 7, 1877, and was followed two years later by his brother, M. R., and Z. W. More. The business, with greatly enlarged facilities, was much extended. This firm manufactured its own cans and its trade was with wholesale grocers in the largest cities from Liverpool and London to San Francisco. It also handled all the corn packed in the large factories of Stephen McCall and Junius Wood, of Camden, New York, and all the stave and heading business of East Lockport. Ten years later (1887), the firm, when in a most prosperous condition, dissolved by limitation. Z. W. More went to Denver, Colorado; M. P. B. Cooke took the stave and heading mills, while Frank Gebbie and M. R. Cooke, under the old name, continued the preserving and packing business until 1890, when they sold out to the Erie Preserving Company, and M. P. B. Cooke, in 1889, sold the stave and heading mills to Joseph W. Little.

THE STAVE MILL.

The stave mill has quite a history, extending as far back as 1840, it being probably the first plant of the kind west of Rochester. Joseph W. Little and his son, Alfred M., have operated the mill since Mr. Cooke sold out the business in 1899. The company was reorganized in 1902 as the Niagara Stave Company, with the Messrs. Little as the active executive officers. Joseph W. Little has served as Supervisor for several terms.

GLASS BLOWING.

Among the oldest industries in the city is the business of the Lockport Glass works, which was established in a small way in 1840 by Messrs. Hildreth, Marks, Keep and Hitchins. After passing through several hands A. J. Mansfield acquired control and the business is now operated by A. J. Mansfield & Company.

The Lockport Glass Company was established in August, 1900, in a fine new plant in the west end of the city. W. W. Storrs is President; C. G. Sutliff, Vice President and J. Milton Woodward, Secretary and Treasurer. With these two good sized plants in town the glass industry is a considerable one.

BRASS BEDS—COTTON BATTING—FOUNDRIES—SHIRTS—ETC.

The Oliver bed factory is one of our comparatively new industries, established in 1893 by John, William, Thomas and George Oliver. They employ some 300 hands. Thomas Oliver, of this firm, is a former Mayor of Lockport.

The manufacture of cotton batting was begun in Lockport in 1870 by George M. Hamlin and there are now three factories of the kind here. The Lockport Cotton Batting Company have lately moved into a new factory on Mulberry Street, and the Niagara Cotton Batting Company have built a new home at the west end of town. The New York Cotton Batting Company is located on Market Street.

The foundries of Daniel G. McKim, Gardner Foundry Company, Hall Iron Works, Drew Foundry Company and the Bramley Brothers are in active operation, the two former dating back for many years. Daniel McKim, father of Daniel G. McKim, was an early manufacturer of school furniture, which is still made in his son's establishment. The



JOSEPH DONNELLY.



W. W. CAMPBELL.



D. ELWOOD JEFFERY.



ROY H. ERNEST.]



STACEY D. BEHE.



A. EDMUND LEE.



J. L. SHELDON, JR.

elder McKim was the inventor of a number of improvements in school furniture.

The shirt industry is represented in Lockport by three concerns employing in the aggregate about 200 hands, Dumville & Company, D. R. Sillesky & Company, and the Tothill Shirt Company.

FIELD FORCE PUMP COMPANY.

The Field Force Pump Company was organized by Jason Collier, William P. Field and Harrison S. Chapman about 1880. Messrs. Collier and Field have passed away. The present officers of the company are C. A. Barnes, President; L. T. Barnes, Vice President; Harrison S. Chapman, Secretary, Treasurer and Manager. The company will build a new factory this fall where South Bristol crosses the Erie tracks. The Field Force pumps for spraying fruit trees are sold all over the country, the business having grown greatly because of the increase of the practice by fruit growers of spraying their orchards.

OTHER IMPORTANT INDUSTRIES.

The Empire Manufacturing Company was started by Edwin W. Carey, in 1883, and was joined by Tiras A. Hall the following year. The product is cotton hose, belting and elastic surgical goods. The company now occupy a new factory built in 1899.

The Merritt Manufacturing Company was organized by I. E. Merritt in 1882 to succeed T. R. Bailey and a Mr. Vail in the production of wood working machinery. The company are building a new factory corner of Michigan Avenue and South Niagara Street, whither they will move their business from their Market Street location.

The business of the Richmond Manufacturing Company was begun in 1869 by James Richmond, who was succeeded by his nephew, William Richmond, in 1874. The company produce machinery for use in flouring mills. Mr. Richmond served a term as Collector of Customs at Suspension Bridge under President Cleveland.

Among the other industries of the city are those conducted by the Cowles Electric Smelting and Aluminum Company; Norman & Evans, makers of derricks, dredges and merry-go-rounds; E. H. Ferree, maker of aluminum goods.

The business of Westerman & Company was established in 1880 under the style of Westerman, Fletcher & Company. Several years later DeWitt Bruce succeeded Mr. Fletcher, on the death of the latter, and the firm took the style of Westerman, Bruce & Company. James Westerman died and Mr. Bruce retired in 1884, when Calvin G. Sutliff became manager of the business. George Westerman retired in 1890, since which time the entire management has devolved on Mr. Sutliff, who is one of our former Mayors. The firm make a high grade of refined iron and employ over 100 hands.

The Niagara Textile Company has been in operation scarcely three years, employing 65 hands making Union huck towels, which are distributed to all parts of the Union. Charles A. Hoag is President of the company; W. A. Williams, Vice President; W. T. Ransom, Secretary and Treasurer.

Evans & Liddle are large manufacturers of brooms; Byron V. Covert & Company and Shaeffer, Bunce & Company of automobiles; I. A. Bronson & Son of carriages; the Lockport Basket Works of fruit baskets; Joseph W. Turner and DeWitt C. Graham of wooden boxes and Morgan Brothers of boats.

Something of the history of Merchant's Gargling Oil and the Niagara white grape, without which this compilation would be incomplete, is given elsewhere by Mr. Wilbur.

And the Seven Sutherland Sisters, be it also remembered, were born near Lockport and have their home here.

IN CONCLUSION.

In November, 1901, City Clerk Van Valkenburg compiled the following facts and figures, which were published at the time but which it is desirable to preserve in a work of this kind in permanent form:

Lockport was incorporated a city April 11, 1865. Population, Census of 1900, was 16,581. Estimated population of 1891, on the basis of 4,349 voters, is 19,570.

Assessed valuation November 1, 1901, \$7,467,142.

General city and school tax in 1901, \$17.01 per \$1,000. The amount raised for the year 1901-2, being for the following purposes:

To pay bonds and interest	\$ 10,839 09
Schools	54,480 00
General city expenses	61,750 00

Total\$127,069 09

The bonded debt November 4, 1901, was \$223,608.16, viz:

"Water" bonds (3½ per cent), \$13,333.30, due \$2,666.66 yearly, from November 1, 1901. Authorized by chapter 120, laws 1886.

"Union School" bonds, (3½ per cent.), \$125,000. due \$10,000 yearly, from November 1, 1901. Authorized by chapter 203, laws 1888.

"Intermediate School" bonds (4 per cent.), \$10,000, due November, 1916. Authorized by chapter 372, laws 1897.

"Emergency water supply" bonds (4 per cent), \$7,000, due \$1,000 yearly, from January 1, 1901. Authorized by chapter 693, laws 1897.

"Special necessity" bonds (4 per cent), \$4,350, issued for fire, highway and street lighting purposes. Authorized by chapter 490, laws of 1898, due \$1,450 yearly, from May 20, 1901.

"Certificate of indebtedness" and "local assessment" bonds (4 and 5 per cent), issued for and to be paid by assessments on property benefited by local improvements, \$63,924.86, due yearly in three and nine years from date of issue. Authorized by chapter 120, laws of 1886, and amendments thereto.

Principal and interest payable at the City Treasurer's office, in New York drafts if desired. The sinking fund on November 4, 1901, amounted to \$3,284, which is held for the purpose of retiring outstanding bonds.

The city has no floating indebtedness.

The city owns \$10,000 stock of the Lockport Hydraulic Company, valued at par.

The city has never defaulted in the payment of interest or principal of its obligations.

Lockport, it will be seen, is having its share of the great development in manufacturing and transportation that is being felt throughout all Western New York. In the future electricity will play no small part in its progress. Not only is the current from Niagara disseminated to Lockport stores and workshops at very low rates for light and power, but the trolley lines operated by the International Railway Company have brought the city in closer touch with Buffalo and have opened up in a way that was before unknown the rich section of country lying between Lockport and Lake Ontario. The International Railway Company, by its frequent and rapid service on both branches of its road and the improvements that it has made and is making, has become one of the factors that are constantly enhancing the prosperity of the city.



CHARLES L. NICHOLLS, CITY ATTORNEY.



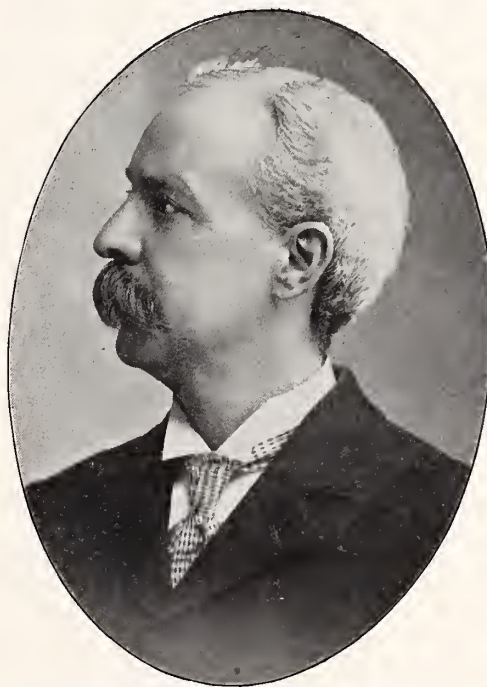
CHARLES MOLYNEUX, CHIEF OF POLICE.



J. CHARLES HARRINGTON, CITY TREASURER.



HON. LOUIS E. HUSTON, MAYOR.



THOS. N. VAN VALKENBURGH, CITY CLERK.



SAMUEL CUNNINGHAM, CHIEF ENGINEER.



A. A. BRADLEY, POLICE JUSTICE.



DR. CARL BLACKLEY, CITY PHYSICIAN.

Promising City of Niagara Falls.

A Tale of Two Villages.

*BY ORRIN E. DUNLAP.



WHILE the City of Niagara Falls has a record, a history that is thoroughly gratifying and pleasing, anything that may be said of it at this time must be considered similar to the history of an infant who is destined to attain great prominence and high position in life.

Events of the past have aided in creating the events of today, and it is generally recognized that the City of Niagara Falls is certain to advance to a wonderful degree in industrial greatness. The contemplation of this future is inspiring;



ORRIN E. DUNLAP.

it is impressive, and as one reviews the history of the locality renewed respect is felt for all who by accepting and adopting the section as their place of living have contributed in some degree in the development that has been and is yet to be.

THE TOWN OF NIAGARA.

So far as the City of Niagara Falls is concerned, it was incorporated on March 17, 1892. It was formed by merging the former villages of Niagara Falls and Suspension Bridge and a portion of the Town of Niagara, the whole forming four wards, which have since been increased to six. Originally, the Town of Niagara was taken from the Town of Cambria, on June 1, 1812. At that time it was called "Schlosser," and continued to be known by this name until February 14, 1816, when it became the Town of Niagara. The area of the territory within the boundaries of the town were sufficient to allow of the creation of the Town of Pendleton in 1827, and in 1836 another division was made and Wheatfield was formed. Thus when the City of Niagara Falls was formed the Town of Niagara had its territory carved for the third time, and the territory within the boundaries of the city no longer constituted a part of the town. Previous to this the villages of Niagara Falls and Suspension Bridge were in the Town of Niagara, and much that is historical of the Town of Niagara bears a similar relation to Niagara Falls.

VILLAGE INCORPORATED.

The village of Niagara Falls was incorporated on July 7,

1848. Years before it was called "Schlosser," this name probably covering all the locality near-by, as is shown by the Town of Niagara having been so called. Later the name of Manchester was taken, and this gave way to Niagara Falls, a name known the world over.

The petition for incorporation was filed by Judge De Veaux and others on July 6, 1848. Parkhurst Whitney, father of Major S. M. N. Whitney, and grandfather of Drake Whitney, was the first President of the village; the Trustees were Augustus S. Porter, Parkhurst Whitney, Henry W. Clark, W. E. Hulett and G. Conger, while Charles H. Smith was the first village clerk.

"SUSPENSION BRIDGE."

About two miles down the river from the Falls there was another settlement, and its first recorded name was Bellevue. On June 8, 1854, it was incorporated as a village and the name "Niagara City" adopted. It was known as Niagara City until along in the Sixties, by which time the name Suspension Bridge had been creeping into popularity, and was finally given preference to Niagara City. For a time both names were used, but eventually the admiration of the people for the great railroad suspension bridge erected over the gorge at that point became so prominent that the village was named Suspension Bridge. For about thirty years this name stood and the place became known as a leading railroad center.

In order that the name of one section included within the present boundaries of Niagara Falls may not be overlooked, it may be well to record that midway between the business sections of the former villages of Niagara Falls and Suspension Bridge there was a section known as Clarksville. This was so called because the late Henry Clark owned a large farm, which he bought of the Porters. It was not an incorporated village, but to this day old residents frequently refer to this section of the city as Clarksville.

THE OLD PORTAGE.

The first occupation of the territory now within the City of Niagara Falls was by the French, and was supported by the business attached to the portage from the lower to the upper river. There is no doubt but the route of the road through the woods had been opened by the Indian settlers long before a white man made the trip. It is only necessary to review old documents relating to the French and English occupancy of the region to find many mentions of this portage, which was considered a valuable feature in connection with the fur trade then so great in and about section.

IN JOHN STEDMAN'S DAYS.

John Stedman appears to have been an important factor in the early day development of the territory now within the city limits. He enlarged the clearing about the landing at the upper end of the portage, and made another clearing on the mainland opposite Goat Island. He also cleared the upper section of Goat Island, which received its name from the fact that Stedman placed goats and other small animals on the island. All these animals but the goat are said to have perished during the winter of 1779-80.

AUGUSTUS PORTER WAS HERE IN 1795.

Up to this time nobody appears to have done much toward improving the locality but the Stedmans. Among the visitors to Niagara in 1795 was Augustus Porter, and the next year he came again as chief of a body of surveyors commissioned to lay out townships in the Western Reserve. He was born in Salisbury, Connecticut, in January.

1769. In 1800 he moved to Canandaigua. Having been favorably impressed by the prospects of Niagara, in 1805 he took part in the formation of Porter, Barton & Company, to do a general portage business. The company consisted of Augustus Porter, Peter B. Porter, Benjamin Barton, Jr., and Joseph Annin. This company leased the portage from the Falls to Lewiston, and also the Stedman farm.

Augustus Porter had come to Niagara with a view to

who died in 1872; Peter B. Porter, who died in 1871; Albert H. Porter, who died January 31, 1888; Miss Lavinia Porter, who died in 1863, and Mrs. Jane S. Townsend, who died October 4, 1890.

Augustus S. Porter married and had two children, Jane A. Porter and Mrs. Sarah F. Burrall. Albert H. Porter married, and his children are Mrs. Julia M. Osborne of Auburn; Jane H. Robinson, Rochester; Albert Augustus



AUGUSTUS PORTER

ALBERT HOWELL PORTER.

ALBERT AUGUSTUS PORTER.

ALEXANDER JEFFREY PORTER.

ALBERT AUGUSTUS PORTER.

aid in its development, and in his first year of residence, 1805, he erected a saw mill and a blacksmith shop, and in 1807 a grist mill. This grist mill lessened the business of a similar mill in Canandaigua, and made it possible for people of the locality to have their grist ground at the Falls. In June, 1806, Augustus Porter moved his family, consisting of his wife and three sons, Albert H., Peter B., Jr., and Augustus S., from Canandaigua, and they took up their residence in the Stedman house near Fort Schlosser.

Augustus Porter's children were Augustus S. Porter,

Porter and Vincent M. Porter, deceased. Peter B. Porter, son of Augustus Porter, never married. Jane S. Townsend had three children, Mrs. Lavinia P. T. Pettebone, Mrs. Jane H. Wheeler, deceased, and Miss Elizabeth Townsend.

Residents of Niagara are well acquainted with the family of the late Albert Augustus Porter and know his sons to be Alexander J. Porter, the local Commissioner of the State Reservation; Albert H. Porter, deceased; Augustus G. Porter, Mrs. Bessie R. Edwards, Mrs. Julia M. Thayer and Mrs. Charlotte R. Buck. Albert Augustus Porter, son of Alexander J. Porter, is the fifth Augustus Porter Niagara

has known. Other children of Alexander J. Porter are Alexander Langmuir Porter, Margaret Jeffery Porter and Katharine Ralston Porter.

The general condition of things about the Falls when Augustus Porter first settled here was not encouraging. In fact the few log cabins up the river were going to decay and even the barracks at Fort Schlosser were in a dilapidated condition. Little had been done toward the development of the resources of the spot. All about the country was very wild. Wolves, deer, bears, foxes, etc., were numerous, and the river, both above and below the falls, abounded with ducks and geese. Fishing was excellent, and rattlesnakes kept settlers on the lookout.

THE PORTERS ENCOURAGED OTHERS.

A new and more hopeful existence appears to have been given to the few people about by the arrival of the Porters, and in truth the development of Niagara had not been started to any great degree until their influence was felt. The spirit that moved them was a desire to develop the place. Other residents in those early days were Jesse Ware, Willam Howell, Willam Miller, James Everingham, Stephen Hopkins, Joshua Fairbanks, Philemon Baldwin, Joseph Howell, Isaac Colt, Erastus Parks and James Murray. In 1807 a grist mill was erected by Porter, Barton & Company. It had two runs of stones. Soldiers came up from Fort Niagara to assist in elevating the frame. This was the beginning of an active industrial period for Niagara, and men familiar with the trades began to move toward the settlement. Among those who located here in 1807 were Adoram Everingham, a miller by trade; Jacob Hovey, a carpenter; John M. Stoughton, a cloth dresser; John Sims and William Voluntine, boat builders, and Gad Pierce, a farmer and inn-keeper, but it is recorded that Joshua Fairchilds was the the pioneer tavern keeper at Niagara.

AN OLD BUILDING.

Augustus Porter and family had been residents of Niagara but two years when he was inspired to add to its dwellings by erecting a substantial home in 1803. The site selected was at the southeast corner of what is now Buffalo Avenue and first Street. In 1813 this home was burned, but it was rebuilt in 1818, and it may be remarked that under its roof wonderful, generous, hospitality has ever been known. Here many notables have been entertained, all of whom have turned from Niagara with regret. The place began to look up. The residents felt that a boom had struck the spot, and in the next few years a rope-walk, a carding mill, a small tannery, a cloth dressing establishment and a log tavern had been acquired. In the rope-walk cordage for both American and English vessels was manufactured, the hemp being brought to the Falls from the flats of the Genesee River. Nearly a century later the people of Niagara are made happy by the location of new manufacturing plants in their midst, but it is doubtful if the rejoicing of today equals that of 1808. Then they were laying a foundation; today such things are accepted as a matter of course.

Those who knew the late James Field were glad of his friendship or acquaintance. He came to Niagara Falls in 1808, and his tavern up at Schlosser was a favorite meeting place for the residents. He died in 1823, but during the years he lived at the Falls he became honored for his enterprise and usefulness as a citizen. When Augustus Porter completed his new residence, he moved his family from the Stedman house, and in 1809 it was opened as a tavern by

Enos Broughton. About this time there was an influx of carpenters, blacksmiths, shoemakers and others, and the growth was noticeable. In 1810 Parkhurst Whitney came from Phelps, New York, and settled on a farm; later, in 1812, moving into the village and renting the saw mill of Augustus Porter. Then an acre lot sold at \$50, and the site of the village was a quarter of a mile above the falls and three-quarters of a mile from Fort Schlosser.

THE WHITNEY FAMILY.

Parkhurst Whitney was identified with the advancement of Niagara and in 1814 he succeeded Joshua Fairchild as proprietor of the first tavern. It was Mr. Whitney who kept the Old Eagle tavern, the log hostelry that stood on the site of the International Hotel of the present day. It was in the Old Eagle tavern that General LaFayette was entertained in 1825. Parkhurst Whitney was identified with the hotel interests of Niagara until 1845, when the firm of Whitney, Jerauld & Trott was formed to run the Cataract House, which was built in 1825, or thereabouts, by David Chapman. Parkhurst Whitney bought it in 1831 and used it as a lodging place for the surplus patronage of the Old Eagle. In 1835 Parkhurst Whitney moved into the Cataract House, leaving the Old Eagle. At this time he began a four story addition to the house in a stone wing that extends to the west. It was in the Old Eagle tavern that Niagara's oldest native born citizen first saw the light of day. This was on October 7, 1815, and the child of that day is today known as Major S. M. N. Whitney, one of the highly esteemed resident of the city. Major Whitney is the oldest living native citizen of Niagara Falls. The Three Sister Islands were named in honor of Major Whitney's three sisters. Drake Whitney, son of Major Whitney, was born in 1843. He is a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, Society of Colonial Wars, Society of Mayflower Descendants and Theta Delta Chi College Fraternity. He has graduated at the Troy Polytechnic School, University of Gottingen, Germany; Freiberg, Saxony; Mining Academy and Ecole Des Mines, Paris. He was engaged in his profession in Colorado and California in 1870, assistant engineer on Canada Southern and Michigan Midland Railways in 1871-72; corporation engineer of Niagara Falls until 1892. He now lives at the old Whitney homestead on Buffalo Avenue, where four generations reside, all born in Niagara Falls, the only case on record. Edwin B. Whitney, his son was born in 1881 at the Falls and has always resided at the Whitney mansion. He is now with the General Electrical Company. His son, Roderick Beebe Whitney, was born 1901 and represents the fourth generation now living there and the fifth generation of the family that has made the fine old place their home.

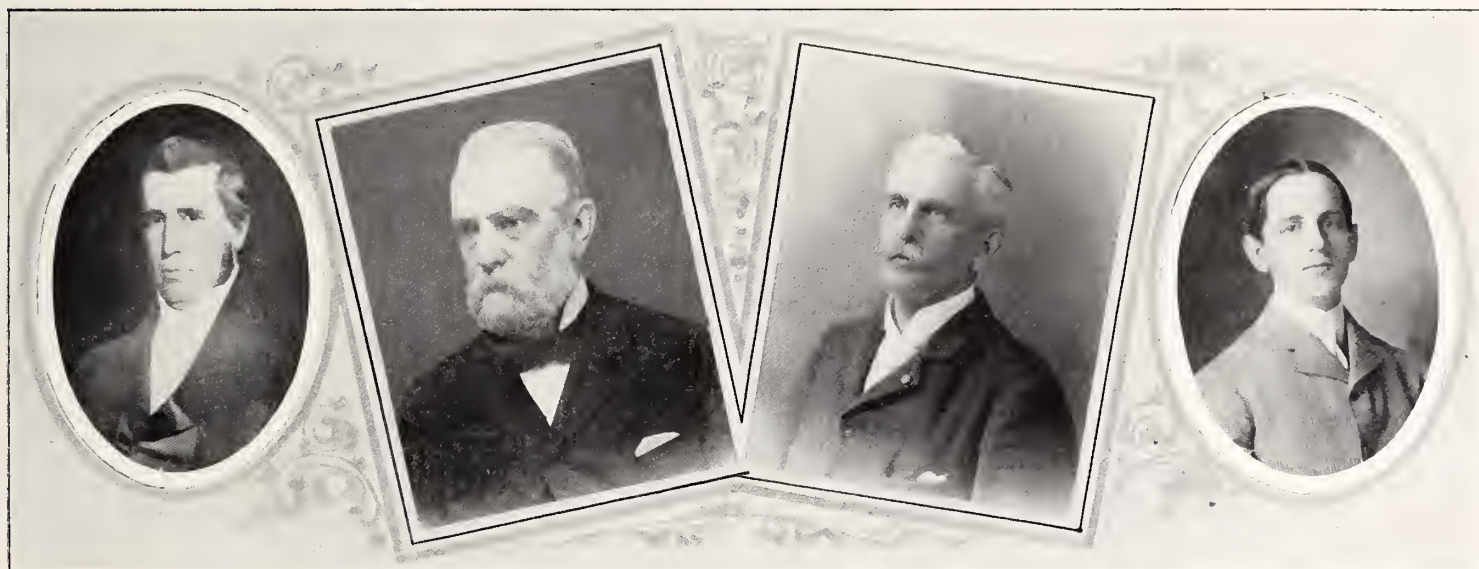
BURNED BY THE BRITISH.

Each year the settlement grew, and the majority of the newcomers were given welcome. In 1813 a severe blow fell upon the place when the British burned the village. The residents had to seek places of safety, and after the British had left they returned and saved two or three dwellings and the old log tavern. Of course, this event was a set back, but with the renewal of peace new hope was revived in the hearts of all. When the rebuilding took place the class of material and style of architecture was somewhat improved. This was made possible by the fact that carpenters and others handy with tools had been coming to the place. So, about 1815, Niagara Falls began to get an improved class of buildings, crude at their best. Samuel Hooker and Samuel De Veaux came to town about that

time. De Veaux has been recorded in history as having been the first merchant of the place, his store having been located on the corner of Main and Niagara Streets. In addition to his mercantile pursuits he served as Judge and Legislator, and was several times elected to public office, having been Supervisor in 1816 and Town Clerk many times. Each year saw new acquisitions to the population of the place, notable arrivals in 1818 being William Murray and David and Stephen Chapman, the latter being woolen manufacturers and the former a carpenter. The fame of Niagara continued to spread, and in 1821 Dr. Ambrose Thomas selected it as a place of practice. He was Niagara's first physician. Next year, 1822, brought Ziba Gay, a blacksmith; B. H. White, a tailor, and Solomon L. Ware, a tanner—men who took part in the development. White is especially remembered by some of the old residents. In his latter years he was an active real estate

of the 200 acres called for by the instrument. It was in 1816 that the State gave them a deed to the property. In the year 1817 the Porters built the first bridge from the mainland to Goat Island. Its location was further up stream than the present bridges. During the winter of 1817-18 the ice from the lake swept the bridge away, but it was rebuilt during 1818, but the site was where crossing is at present made to the island. In 1855 an iron truss bridge supplanted the earlier structure, and in 1900-1901 the present beautiful rock-faced concrete arches were built. The island between the mainland and Goat Island was first called Bath Island, because of bathing places thereon, but on November 16, 1898, the name Bath Island gave way to Green Island, this latter name being given in honor of the Hon. Andrew H. Green, Chairman of the Board of Reservation Commissioners.

In 1848 the Porter & Clark paper mill was sold to



RODERICK WHITNEY.

MAJ. S. M. N. WHITNEY.

DRAKE WHITNEY.

EDWIN B. WHITNEY.

agent, always ready to talk about the future of the Niagara locality, and induced many people to purchase lots which have since greatly increased in value. Gay became associated with a man named Bolles, under the firm name of Gay & Bolles, in the operation of a foundry, forge, rolling mill and nail factory which stood on the lower side of the site of the bridge extending from the mainland to Goat Island. About this time Augustus Porter erected a grist mill on the upper race. This became known as the "old yellow grist mill." Peter D. Bachman was the miller, and afterwards it was operated by Christian H. Witmer and brother. In 1823 Jesse Symonds built a paper mill on the mainland near Goat Island bridge.

SOME ISLAND HISTORY.

In 1826 the industrial life of Niagara leaped the channel and established itself on Bath Island, where Albert H. Porter and Henry W. Clark erected a paper mill. Augustus Porter and Peter B. Porter had acquired Goat Island in 1816, and from that time this and the adjacent islands were brought into closer relations with the settlement on the mainland. The Porters had previously, in 1810, tried to gain control of these islands, but the Legislature would not give its consent. Finally the Porters, Augustus and Peter B., bought from Samuel Sherwood, a lawyer, a "float," which was a document that allowed the owner to locate 200 acres of any of the unsold or unappropriated land of the State. With this in their possession the Porter Brothers selected Goat and the adjacent islands as a part

Benjamin and Chester Bradley. The late Stoughton Pettebone became interested with Benjamin Bradley in the mill under the name of the Niagara Falls Paper Manufacturing Company. On August 12, 1858, the plant was destroyed by fire. It was quickly rebuilt, but in 1881 it was again burned. L. C. Woodruff, of Buffalo, had succeeded Benjamin Bradley in the company, and in 1882 the late Stoughton Pettebone withdrew from the company and with his son, General Lauren W. Pettebone, organized the Pettebone-Cataract Paper Company and erected a new mill on the lands of the Niagara Falls Hydraulic Power & Manufacturing Company, the mill being completed about 1883. The Niagara Falls Paper Manufacturing Company continued on Bath Island until the State took the property. The paper mill office was long allowed to stand on Green Island, and was used as an office by the Commissioners. However, on Monday, May 12, 1902, the work of tearing the structure down was commenced, and within a few days the last vestige of the former industrial life on the property acquired by the State was no more.

EARLY DAY INDUSTRIES.

The village was prosperous, and in 1826 the upper race was extended. This upper race was also known as the "wing dam," and extended from a point on the upper river, opposite Goat Island to Bridge Street. Its construction formed Willow Island. Later it was extended to a point on the high bank near the present gas house, the object being to use the flow of water to wash away the dirt so

that a road might be constructed down the bank to rival the one on the Canadian side. The rock was stripped, but the roadway was abandoned. At this time the only means of descent to the lower river was by means of a rude stairway built in 1817 by Parkhurst Whitney. This stairway was on the site of the present park incline. In 1825 a spiral stairway was erected, and in 1844-45 the bank was cut away for the incline plane, which was afterwards arched over the roadway, as at present. When the idea of building a roadway to the water's edge in the gorge was abandoned, the flow of the upper race was cut off at what is now the corner of Falls and Prospect Streets. Power was obtainable, the water passing into a conduit which carried it to a pulp mill operated by Hill & Murray and a foundry operated by William Landreth, located in what is now a part of Prospect Park. There was also a lower race, which started from a pier built out in the rapids near the Cataract House and ran to Goat Island bridge. It is understood that this power was used for the operation of the Symonds paper mill and the Gay & Bolles foundry. Later an Englishman, named Hard Muns, operated a foundry in one of the Gay & Bolles buildings.

JUDGE T. G. HULETT—A VENERABLE CITIZEN.

At this time the entire manufacturing locality of Niagara was situated between the head of Willow Island and a point within about 500 feet of the American Falls. Each new enterprise was encouraged. New residents were welcomed as coming to enjoy the glorious future which then appeared to hover over Niagara. These were the conditions when Judge Theodore G. Hulett came to the Falls in 1833. Mr. Hulett was full of good ideas and sound sense, and he has grown to a ripe old age within sound of the roar of the falls. His has been a memorable and an honorable career, and residents of Niagara realize that the locality was much enriched by his talents. Niagara can well afford to pay him tribute for the generous manner in which he has brought down to us the story of the past. He was one of the men commissioned by Governor Morgan to equip Colonel Peter A. Porter's regiment, and it was Judge Hulett who devised the scheme whereby "Old Hulett's blue backs" were issued to the families of absent soldiers during war time to help them live. These "blue backs" were audited in the fall of the year by the Town Board, and passed as money. Thus the families were relieved to the extent of \$28,000 without bonding the town or creating an indebtedness. It was Judge Hulett who started the fund that built the Soldiers' and Sailors' monument that now stands at the foot of Falls Street, and which was dedicated on Tuesday, September 22, 1876.

IN STAGE COACH DAYS.

When Judge Augustus Porter traveled from Canandaigua with his family, in 1806, he was his own teamster and occupied four days in the journey. Other pioneers made their way through the wilderness in the same way. It was about 1816 that the stage route over the Ridge Road to Lewiston and Niagara Falls was established.

PIONEER RAILROAD.

In 1835 Niagara felt the impulse of its pioneer railroad, which was built between the border and Lockport. It was a wooden strap line, and the depot was in front of the Cataract House at the foot of Buffalo Avenue. Horses were used for about two years, and then steam locomotives of light construction were substituted. Switching was done right in the street in front of the hotels, and it was con-

sidered fortunate that these hostelrys had such excellent railroad facilities. This line was opened in 1836, and the same year a railroad was completed between Buffalo and Niagara Falls. The first conductor on this latter line was Samuel Hamlin, and the first baggageman, George Hamlin. Horses were used to draw the cars. The depot of the Buffalo road stood at the northeast corner of Falls and Main Streets, where the road had a little shed. Later the road ran to the corner of Falls and Prospect Street, where the depot office and machine shop were located—the present stone building standing there having been the machine shop. Their office was the old yellow school house built by Judge Porter, and which had, up to this time, been occupied as a village school for some years. About this time the first tax for school purposes was levied, and a new two-story frame building erected in the oak grove which then covered the corner of Falls and Second Streets. This old school building is now standing alongside the railroad tracks between Second and Niagara Streets. Beyond the school house of those days was the lime kiln, and children were warned not to go further than this lime kiln for fear of being captured by wild animals.

The first railroad made one trip a day between Niagara Falls and Lockport, the trains frequently being from seven to eight hours behind time. The Lockport and Niagara Falls Company was bought out in 1851 by the Rochester. Lockport & Niagara Falls Railroad Company, organized December 10, 1850. The old track was abandoned. On June 25, 1852, a special party, including the directors, passed over the new line, and the regular service was instituted June 30, 1850. On May 7, 1853, the lines hereabouts were consolidated and became the New York Central, the line which ever since has been, and continues to be, a material factor in the development of Niagara Falls. The Canandaigua and Niagara Falls line was opened to Niagara Falls and Suspension Bridge in 1853-54. This company had a mammoth freight house that stood near where the cold storage warehouse now stands at the north end of the city. It was several hundred feet long and after it was abandoned by the railroad it became known as John Quick's barn. The Suspension Bridge depot of this line stood on Main Street near the present switch and signal tower. The freight house on Second Street is an old Canandaigua structure.

With the changes in the ownership and operation of the line to Buffalo and the line to Lockport new depot facilities were demanded, and this led to the construction of a depot at the corner of Falls and Second Street, the line from Lockport building the wing extending to the north, and the Buffalo line building a wing that extended east, but which has since been changed. The company that built the railroad to Lewiston was incorporated September 9, 1852, and was known as the Niagara Falls & Lake Ontario Railroad Company, its inspiration being to reach the lake at Youngstown. The work of this company commanded much attention because of the great cut it made through the rock between this city and Lewiston. The road was opened to Lewiston in 1854, and on October 21, 1855, a train ran to Youngstown. This part of the line was later taken up. It is now owned by the New York Central. What is known as the Erie Road came to town in 1870-71.

THE YOUNG FAMILY.

While the Porters and others were aiding in building up and developing the resources of Niagara Falls, other pioneers were arriving in the locality and establishing homes. Among the very earliest of these were John Young,

(born May 29, 1752), and family, who reached the Town of Niagara, June 1, 1810. They came from Lancaster County, Pa. The party numbered fourteen persons, consisting of John Young, his wife, five sons, Christian, Samuel, Jacob, John and Charles, and two daughters, Catharine and Polly. Christian and Samuel, sons of John Young, were both married when they came, so that Christian's wife and son, William and daughter, Sally, and Samuel's wife and son, Jonas, were also members of the party. John Young died August 8, 1811, about two years after he came to Niagara. In December, 1813, all the Youngs went to Sparta, Livingston County, returning to Niagara in the harvest season to gather their crops, but it was 1817 before they again made Niagara their permanent home. After coming to New York, Christian Young had three more sons, John, Samuel and Benjamin, and one daughter, Mary Ann, while Samuel Young had two more children, Elizabeth and Charles. Of Christian Young's sons, William was the only one that married, and Christian M., of Thomas Street, David of South Avenue, William of Fourth Street and Mrs. Coleman, also of Niagara, are his children. John, Samuel and Benjamin remained bachelors; Samuel still living at Young's Corners. The children of Jonas Young alive today are Samuel P., in Russia; Henry C., on the old homestead, Military Road; Jonas F., in Pennsylvania, and Maria, who lives with Henry. Charles, son of Jonas, had two children, who live on the Military Road. When John Young and family arrived in the Town of Niagara they were obliged to cut a road through the timber from the mouth of Gill Creek to lot No. 17 of the Holland Land Purchase.

THE WITMER FAMILIES.

John and Abram Witmer were two more pioneer settlers who left Pennsylvania in 1810 and 1811 to settle at Niagara. They were eighteen days in making the trip, arriving here in September. Isaac Swain came to Niagara in 1805, and settled on the Military Road where it crosses Gill Creek. On the arrival of John Witmer he made his way across a road Swain had cleared from the Devil's Hole to his clearing of thirty or forty acres, and this he bought of Swain, who moved to the Town of Porter. Abram Witmer came in 1811. It is said that the Swain clearing and that sold by Stevens to Christian Young were the only improvements on the Military Road at that time. With the coming of John and Abram Witmer and their families new factors in development were added, for these men were full of enterprise and industry. John Witmer in 1817 built a saw mill on Gill Creek, near where he lived. This mill was in operation for many years, and the old mill pond is still familiar to many who consider themselves young in years. From the Witmer mill lumber was supplied for many buildings in the surrounding locality. John Witmer's family consisted of his wife and nine children, seven sons, Christian, Benjamin, Abram, John, Samuel, Henry and Rudolph, and two daughters, Barbara and Nancy. Abram Witmer's family at this time was a wife and four children, Christian H., Abram, Jr., David and Joseph, and after coming to Niagara four more children were born to them, their names being, Esther, Tobias and Elias (twins), and Fanny.

The members of Christian H. Witmer's family alive today are Jacob M. Witmer, John M. Witmer, Elizabeth Witmer, of this locality, and Mrs. Fanny Emig of York, Pa. Abram M. Witmer, who died May 10, 1899, was also a son of Christian Witmer. This Christian Witmer was the man who ran the old Porter grist mill on the upper rapids, and also the grist mill on the high bank near the lower steel arch

bridge, first operated by Silas Olmstead and enlarged by the Witmers. On September 17, 1859, while working about the raceway of the lower rapids mill he fell into the water and was carried through the whirlpool rapids to death. Abram Witmer, Jr., had one son, Joseph S. Witmer, of Lockport. David Witmer's family living today are one son and four daughters, Christian Witmer, Mrs. Barbara Lampkins, Miss Fanny Witmer, of this section; Mrs. Esther Crabtree, in the West, and Mrs. Sarah Canfield of this county. Of the family of Joseph Witmer there are living today, Miss Maria Witmer, Mrs. Franklin Pletcher, this city; Mrs. Joseph Kline, Lockport; Mrs. Lauer, this city, and Elias K. Witmer, of Lockport. Esther and Tobias, children of Abram Witmer, are deceased, but Tobias left sixteen children, one of whom is Mrs. Daniel Schmitt. Elias Witmer never married. He resides on the old Witmer homestead east of the city. Fanny Witmer is now Mrs. Fanny Lieb, of Missouri.

AFTER THE WAR OF 1812.

The war of 1812-14 was a set-back to the border locality, and some who had come to this section returned to the interior. However, in the years following the strife Niagara attracted many settlers. Samuel Tompkins came in 1815. In 1816 Eli Bruce settled on the Lockport Road, and Rev. David M. Smith preached both in Lewiston and Niagara. Ferris Angevine came in 1818 and selected a place above Cayuga Creek, moving to the present Angevine farm three years later. About 1818 or 1819 Epaphroditus Emmons settled in the Schlosser locality and erected a two-story frame building about the old stone chimney, which then was a relic of the burning of 1813. The Portage Road knew Isaac Smith previous to 1819, about which time Thomas W. Fanning came to Niagara. In 1822 Aaron and Stephen Childs, brothers, known to old settlers as "Deacon" and "Sinner" Childs became residents. Stephen Childs settled near the whirlpool, and Aaron Childs on property he later sold to Orson Childs, a son of Stephen Childs. Henry H. Hill settled on the River Road and Peter D. Bachman and James Ward on the River Road in 1825, the same year that Daniel Remington and family came from Livingston County. They lived with Charles Goff and family on the only clearing at that time between the home of the Youngs and Cayuga Creek. At this time there was only one settler between the Youngs and the Witmers. George Shipman came from Canada in 1825, and Rev. Horatio A. Parsons settled between the Falls and Cayuga Creek in 1826. In 1828 Martin Vogt came to Niagara, from Pennsylvania by way of Buffalo. They traveled by team, and as they neared the Falls they passed the night with Samuel Tompkins at La Salle. Next day's jaunt brought them to Pierce's tavern, near the corner of Main Street and Portage Road, and the next day they made their way out through the bush to Beck's Corners, later known as Pletcher's Corners, and named after Daniel Pletcher. Martin Vogt bought land in the eastern part of the city, and his family grew up here. One of his sons was the late Jacob J. Vogt. Jacob B. Vogt is a son of Jacob J. Vogt, who died June 2, 1902. Jacob J. Vogt's homestead was near the Devil's Hole. Christian Binkley came to Niagara in 1832. Uriah and Jeremiah Binkley were his sons. In 1833 Joseph Graves came from Massachusetts. He had a son, Lyman C. Graves, who lived on the Packard Road on land bought by Martin Vogt from the Holland Land Purchase. With Ambrose Packard, Lyman Graves had a

lime kiln. Ambrose Packard came to Niagara from Massachusetts about 1832. In addition to his lime kiln business he was interested in farming and fruit growing.

EARLY RESIDENTS.

The late J. M. Buttery, father of Mrs. W. D. McEwen and Miss Buttery, Earl, Robert and John Buttery, came to the town of Lewiston in 1830 and to Niagara in 1856. He located on a farm on the high bank by the whirlpool rapids, at a point where a Mr. Titus had built a saw mill that was operated by cable power obtained from a raceway at the water's edge. A stairway led to the slope below, and as this became a popular scenic point, Mr. Buttery had the enterprise to erect a passenger elevator at that point in 1869. Buttery's elevator became famous the world over, but after the Gorge Road was built the elevator was allowed to go out of service. On April 18, 1901, Chief Otto Utz, of the city fire department, was called upon to destroy the old elevator shaft by fire, which was done on that date. In 1838 Daniel Dietrick came from Pennsylvania and settled at La Salle finally. Between 1840 and 1850 the locality grew rapidly. The year 1849 brought John Burdette, and 1850 the late A. M. Chesbrough. Burdette was the pioneer fruit grower of La Salle and his success led others into the business. In 1830 the Town of Niagara had a population of 1,401, and by 1840 it had decreased to 1,277, but in 1850 it reached 1,951; in 1860, 6,603; in 1870, 6,832, and in 1875, 6,861. John Mayle and John Hoehn, who came in 1850 and died March 31, 1887, were early settlers at Pletcher's Corners. George L. Brown came to Niagara Falls in 1855; Wesley P. Brown in 1855; Henry Clark was born in Niagara Falls, October 29, 1826; L. H. F. Hamilton came to the Falls in 1847; Charles B. Ousterhout came in 1853; John S. Pierce was born here March 10, 1827; George W. Wright came to the Falls in 1859; Samuel P. Young was born in the Town of Niagara in 1836. James Davy and family came to the Falls from Kingston, Ont., in 1836. The family lived in the River House near the Cataract House, and in the winter of 1837-38 their house was burned. James Davy and Abraham Davy and Mrs. H. C. Adams, of this city, and Mrs. Jacob Williams, of Chicago, are children of the first named James Davy, which family has always been prominent at Niagara.

GENERAL PETER B. PORTER'S COMING.

In 1841 General Peter B. Porter, brother of Augustus Porter, and a member of the firm of Porter, Barton & Company, moved with his family from Black Rock to Niagara Falls, where he died in 1844. General Porter left a son and a daughter, Colonel Peter A. Porter and Miss Elizabeth Porter, the latter dying unmarried. Col. Peter A. Porter was born in Black Rock in 1827. Two years of his life were spent at the Heidelberg University, in Germany, and in European travel. He was twice married. In 1861 he was elected to the Assembly, and when the rebellion broke out he contributed liberally to the fund used in organizing the Porter Guards. He organized the Eighth Regiment and was commissioned Colonel. He participated with that regiment in all the battles in which it was engaged up to the time of his death, June 3, 1864. He was survived by his widow, two sons and a daughter, but the latter died when quite young. His two sons are Hon. Peter A. Porter and George M. Porter. Peter A. Porter's sons are Peter A. Porter, Jr., Cabell Breckenridge Porter and Preston Buel Porter.

CONSTRUCTION OF THE FIRST BRIDGE.

Between 1840 and 1850 the north end of the present city began to command attention as Bellevue. Railroads

had pierced the locality and there was talk of a bridge over the gorge. The two villages were rivals for the structure, but in 1847 it was decided to erect it on the site of the present lower steel arch. Connections were made between the cliffs by Homan Walsh, a boy who flew his kite and allowed the string to settle across the gorge. It was a question of how to proceed with the bridge construction after the decision to build it had been made. In January, 1848, Judge T. G. Hulett and General Ellet, the latter the contractor, and the former an engineer, met in the Old Eagle tavern to discuss the matter. They talked of using a cableway, but the design of the car to be operated on it was in doubt. Both men occupied old-fashioned rocking chairs, and leaping to his feet and asking General Ellet to do the same, Judge Hulett pulled the two vacant chairs together, saying, "There is the shape of your car, or basket." His suggestion was adopted. When the cableway was erected passengers were carried from bank to bank for \$1. With connections made between the cliff, two small towers 25 feet high were framed. One was erected on the east bank of the river, and the other taken by teams around by the Lewiston ferry and erected on the opposite bank. While this work was going on a thirty-six strand cable, 1,160 feet long, was made. On this cable the iron basket was operated by means of a rope about a windlass on either side. The first crossing was made while people on both banks cheered. Work was then commenced on the construction of a foot bridge. Towers were raised and eight cables of seventy-two strands each were strung. Then a small bridge was swung across the gorge under these eight cables. This bridge was but three feet wide and hung from the cables by suspenders attached to cross ties. The work of erecting this slender bridge proceeded from both sides, meeting in the center of the gorge. People were allowed to cross by paying twenty-five cents, which went to the contractor. Another small bridge was swung from a similar set of cables from similar towers standing forty feet apart, and between the two slender bridges the iron basket was operated. When this second bridge had been carried out 250 feet from the east bank and 150 feet from the west bank, a tornado swept down the gorge from the southwest. Six men were working on the bridge at the time. In an instant their lives were endangered. The structure was torn apart, and boards were carried in all directions. On the far extremity the men were left, swinging back and forth sixty feet over the river, 150 feet below, the only support of the remnant on which they held being two strands of No. 10 wire. The rain fell in torrents. The wind lowered, and then, with a single man, William Ellis, who volunteered, in it, he taking a ladder, the iron basket was sent out. Connection between the basket and broken section of the bridge on which the men were, was made with the ladder, and one by one they passed into it, all being drawn ashore. Repairs were made, and after the two small bridges were erected they were drawn together, and a bridge erected about six inches below, the original small bridges being removed as fast as the enlarged bridge was completed. After a railing was put up, Contractor Ellet drove a horse and buggy over the structure and later crossed in a carriage drawn by a span of horses. At this time the contractors and the directors of the bridge company had trouble. General Ellet went to Wheeling, where he had a contract to erect a bridge over the Ohio, and it is alleged that Messrs. Hulett and Jonathan Baldwin were approached to desert him, which they refused to do, but apprised Ellet of the situation, the idea being to



O. W. CUTLER.



JAMES F. MURPHY.



HENRY T. ALLEN.



HANS NEILSON



ARTHUR C. HASTINGS.



MAJ. JAMES LOW.



J. C. LEVEL.

strengthen the bridge then standing and not to go on with the work as originally planned. The sheriff had a hand in the trouble. A barricade was erected on the boundary line at midstream. The case was carried to the courts, and on October 17, 1848, the rights of the contractor were being fought. Finally, the trouble was adjusted. The foot bridge was a great success, and the work of building a railroad suspension bridge was begun. This was a double-deck structure, the lower deck being for foot and carriage travel and the upper deck carried a single track for railroad traffic. The structure was of wood with great stone towers.

The first crossing on the railroad tracks was made on March 8, 1855, by the locomotive "London." This locomotive advanced on the bridge from the Canadian side. Her tender was loaded with men, among them Mr. Roebling and officers of the bridge company. American and British flags fluttered side by side. The engine passed back and forth four times, but did not come to the American side because the tracks were not connected. The bridge commanded much attention and created excitement. One who witnessed the doings on Sunday, March 18, 1855, wrote as follows: "Awful violation of the Sabbath by the long trains of freight cars with multitudes of men on the top of them crossing and recrossing the bridge and shifting of freight will not soon be forgotten by those there who revere the Holy Day. The curse of God will rest on this bridge is my firm belief." On March 19, 1855, the first passenger train, drawn by the "David Upton," with Upton himself a passenger, crossed the bridge.

In 1880 the wooden truss was replaced by a steel truss, without interrupting traffic, and in 1886 the stone towers gave way to towers of steel. John A. Roebling was the engineer of the great railway suspension bridge, and in rebuilding the structure L. L. Buck was in charge. For over ten years the reconstructed bridge met the demands of travel, but on April 9, 1896, work on the foundations for the abutments of the new steel arch started. The work of erecting the steel superstructure of the arch began September 17, 1896, and on July 29, 1897, the great bridge was tested with success. From abutment to abutment the span is 550 feet, with two approach spans each 115 feet long. It has a double track on the upper deck, and the lower deck is used for carriages and pedestrians. Its construction more than doubled the crossing facilities, and where on the old suspension bridge the length and weight of trains were limited, trains of any weight and length speed over the arch. This was the first steel arch erected across the gorge. The erection of iron began at both sides of the river, the last section being placed in the center. The iron of the arch was erected about the suspension bridge, which was kept in full operation, on both its decks, during the period of construction. In every way it was a truly marvelous work, as was also all the bridge building on this site in previous years.

Soon after the lower steel arch was completed the Bridge Company held a three days' celebration. This was in the nature of an English fair, and balloon ascensions, tight rope walking, in fact all country fair features were prominent. Each evening there was a remarkable display of fireworks, and this was the finest pyrotechnic display ever witnessed in Western New York.

THE NAME "SUSPENSION BRIDGE" CREPT IN.

It was the construction of the original suspension bridge that forced the name "Niagara City" to give way to

the name "Suspension Bridge" for the village located about the east end of the structure. This bridge building period was one of great activity, and the little hamlet grew with wonderful rapidity. Many men who became prominent in the village history came to the old town in those days, and the earliest of the on-rush alive today recall that all the business was done down "under the hill," close about the bridge. On top of the hill there was a hickory forest, and up on "Bunker Hill," right at the lower Main street railroad crossing of today, was the home of Elihu P. Graves. Up through the woods was the Childs house, still standing on Main Street, and further up was the Pierce tavern. The postoffice was established about 1848-49. It stood on the site of the present Erie approach to the steel arch, and was in a store. Dr. Collier was the first Postmaster. The Childs house was the mansion of the section. As far back as 1843 "Bellevue" was the name used for this section of the city. In the latter fifties and early sixties "Niagara City" and "Suspension Bridge" were both used, and in 1874 "Suspension Bridge" was officially recognized, but this name had become well established years before that date. In the early days of the village that section of Whirlpool Avenue, above the hill at Cleveland Avenue, was known as Rail Road Avenue, while below the hill this present avenue was known as Spring Street. That section of the present Main Street in the former village of Suspension Bridge was known as Lewiston Avenue, while in the village of Niagara Falls it was known as Ontario Street. Up to 1850 all the business of the village of Suspension Bridge was on Spring Street, but in the next few years it began to creep up the hill. There was evidence of growth; necessity of expansion, "for the place was destined to be a city some day." Men who took part in the early development, coming here within the few years after the suspension bridge was started, were General Charles B. Stuart, J. V. E. Vedder, father of James Vedder and Thomas Vedder, Charles Addington, John Fisk, the late Captain John Symmes, W. O. Buchanan, Rodney Durkee, (father of Charles S. Durkee) and whose widow is still living in the city, aged eighty-one years; Frederick Wiedenmann, James Watson, the late Dr. R. J. Rogers, Dr. W. H. Wallace, Ignatz Reiss, Marcus Adams, William Harroun, Solomon Neale, Patrick Whelan, Mark Whitbeck, Christian Barthau, Conrad Burns, William Carr, Adam Sickinger, Jacob Dunlap, Konrad Fink, Jacob Bingenheimer, George H. Pierce, I. H. Arnett, F. W. Swain. Solomon Neale is alive today at the age of eighty-five. He was one of the earliest settlers in the Niagara region, having come here in 1843. For seven years he owned and worked what is known as the Skipper farm, and in 1850 he became a resident of Bellevue. He kept a general store until December 31, 1877, when he retired from active life.

DEPOT AND HOTEL FACTS.

With the advent of railroads on both sides of the river the suspension bridge point of crossing became most important, and James and Thomas Vedder controlled the freight and passenger transfer business over the bridge and river previous to the completion of the railway suspension bridge in 1855. Travel at that time was plunging westward. On this side of the river the depot, where the Vedder wagons loaded, stood on North Avenue opposite the present Tenth Street station and another at the west end, north side, of Niagara Avenue. In 1855 Josiah H. Crump had charge of moving the old North Avenue depot across the tracks to the present depot site, where a very large covered depot was in time erected, and this was destroyed by fire

January 2, 1883. The present Tenth Street depot was built in 1887. Niagara always has been, and always will be, a junction point. Today the hotel interests have been concentrated to a great degree at the south end of the city, but in the fifties the hotel life at the north end of the city was very vigorous indeed. In those early days there were no sleeping cars. Suspension Bridge was the half way point between New York and Chicago, and people who could afford it stopped over at one of the hotels to get refreshed for the next day's journey.

A VAST RAILROAD CENTER.

The early-day anticipations that the locality would be a great railroad center have been fully realized. Today the trains of the New York Central, the Michigan Central, the West Shore, Lehigh Valley, Canadian Pacific, Grand Trunk, Erie and Rome, Watertown & Ogdensburg, run into the city. The coming of all these various lines has developed some consolidations, notably that of the Rome, Watertown & Ogdensburg with the New York Central on March 17, 1891, the offices being turned over on April 19, 1891, and that of the West Shore with the New York Central in April, 1899. At the time of this latter consolidation George H. Stevens was agent of the West Shore and his office was on the north side of Depot Avenue on Eleventh Street. His position was vacated, but he was called to New York and is now Assistant General Superintendent of the New York Central. Today F. K. Paddock is Freight Agent of the New York Central; L. J. Simon of the Michigan Central; Charles R. Thorne, of the Lehigh Valley; John J. Beck, of the Grand Trunk and Wabash, and Henry L. Colpoys of the Erie. Each year the travel to Niagara has increased rapidly, and on March 1, 1901, the New York Central appointed B. B. Denison District Passenger Agent, to be located in Niagara Falls. Michael Donohue, who came to Niagara on June 1, 1862, has been Stationmaster at the Falls Street station since October 25, 1881.

MORE HOTEL HISTORY.

When it was evident that the gorge was to be spanned by a railroad bridge, enterprise took a great leap at Niagara City. The Monteagle Hotel was begun, and was opened in November, 1856. It was built by the Tomlinsons and Charles Stuart. Stuart opened it with a great flourish. From 1861 to 1865 Oscar De Camp and John Durnin made money in the house but others lost money there. In 1889 or 1890 it passed into the hands of the Van Horns and was turned into a cold storage warehouse.

Previous to the opening of the Monteagle, the New York Central House, a frame hotel that stood on Depot Avenue, just east of the present Main Street, enjoyed a wonderful business, clearing \$14,000 the first year. It was built about 1854, and was destroyed by fire May 28, 1871.

The house known as Atwood's Western Hotel, Depot Avenue, was started by "Boney" Cole in 1855. When the house was about a year old Amasa Atwood bought it. He was familiarly known as "Pap" Atwood, and was a good-natured gentleman. This house had the patronage of the drovers then passing across country, for Suspension Bridge was at one time a big stock yard center. Atwood rebuilt and enlarged the hotel in 1866. George Brock ran it for three years, and then Mr. Atwood again took charge, continuing until he died, January 20, 1881. Hon. Walter P. Horne then ran it until May, 1901. It was kept open as a hotel during 1901, but later closed and then reopened as a lodging house.

J. Felix Nassoioy, the present proprietor of the New York Central Hotel, on Depot Avenue, who came to Niagara May 1, 1854, has long been identified with the hotel interests at the north end of the city. He succeeded the Monro Brothers at the Monteagle, and in 1876 took charge of the house a second time. His present hotel was opened as a boarding house by De Camp and Durnin. When Mr. Nassoioy secured possession, he enlarged it and gave it its present name.

The Falls View Hotel, on Whirlpool Avenue, was built by James Vedder early in the fifties. It was first known as the Vedder House and then as the Frontier House. The late Jacob Gutbrodt kept it many years. Previous to his going to the Frontier House Mr. Gotbrodt kept the old American Hotel, a mammoth frame building that was torn down in the latter eighties to make way for the Silberberg block on Main Street.

Josiah H. Crump, father of Henry Crump, came to Niagara City about 1854. The house now standing at the southwest corner of South Avenue and Tenth Street was his home. Christian Barthau built the front section of what is now the Fink block, corner of Main Street and Niagara Avenue. Isaac Colt built the stone house on Ontario Avenue east of Tenth Street. Silas Olmstead, the miller, built a brick house that now stands in the rear of August Rieckhoff's on Main Street. Mark Whitbeck, who was really the first general agent of the New York Central here, built the brick house on the south side of Ontario Avenue east of Main, so long the home of the late Peter D. Lammerts. August Rieckhoff and the late Peter D. Lammerts came from Germany together, arriving in Niagara City June 15, 1850. John Kraemer came in 1854, going to Buffalo and returning here later. On the site of the present United States Hotel, between Ontario Street and Niagara Avenue, stood the "Farmers' Home," kept by Lewis E. Glover.

FOUNDING OF DE VEAUX COLLEGE.

Samuel De Veaux has been spoken of as the first merchant of the locality, and it is due to his generosity and appreciation of the locality that the city today possesses that magnificent educational institution De Veaux College. Samuel De Veaux was a descendant of the Huguenots. On the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, in 1685, his great grandfather, Louis De Veaux, fled from Paris, his native city, and came to America. Samuel De Veaux was born in New York 1789. In 1803 he entered the land office of Phelps & Gorham in Canandaigua, and in 1807 he was appointed commissary at Fort Niagara. In 1813 he married Maria Woodruff and took up a residence in Le Roy, where he lived two years. In 1815 his wife died and he married her sister. He came to the Niagara locality, and it is said that his store contained everything from a yard of cloth to ox-bows and sap buckets. Articles were traded between customer and merchant. In 1826 he was Supervisor, and for many years Town Clerk. He served as judge and legislator with great credit. He died in 1852, and by his will, dated August 3, 1852, after providing for relatives, he left \$174,652.52 to Bishop De Lancy, Peter A. Porter, Rev. Dr. William Shelton and Richard H. Woodruff, as trustees, "for the purpose of establishing, founding and maintaining a benevolent institution, to receive and support orphans and destitute children; to train them up to industry; to learn them trades and professions; to give them mental and manual, and a social and religious education." It was further provided that the institution should be under the

care of the Protestant Episcopal Church, the diocese of Western New York to have charge. The college was incorporated April 15, 1853. The buildings were begun in 1855 and completed on the original plans in 1857 or 1858. However, the college was opened in March, 1857. By careful management in 1856 the fund was increased to \$187,135.40. In 1877 the college domain consisted of 364 acres, and some of this land has been a factor of sale and purchase for many years.

Fifty years have passed, and no other man has erected such a monument to his memory as did Judge De Veaux.

NAVIGATION OF THE LOWER RIVER.

Down in the gorge in front of the falls the steamers Maid of the Mist ply and allow visitors most magnificent views of the great cataract. The navigation of these waters started further down the river in 1846, or thereabouts, when the first Maid of the Mist was constructed in an eddy several hundred feet above the site of the present bridges. Previous to this steamer construction a roadway had been built from the foot of what is known as Ontario Avenue at an easy grade to a point on the lower river below Division Street, and there the original Maid of the Mist landing was located. This roadway was wide enough for carriages to pass, and it was a picturesque walk or ride, but the dock had for years been going to decay, so that when the Gorge Road was built the excavated material thrown down upon the old landing concealed it from sight. In 1854 a new Maid of the Mist was built in Buffalo and launched in the lower river July 14 of that year. The story is told that in 1861 the boat was likely to be seized. However this may be, it is known that on June 6, 1861, Joel R. Robinson ran the boat through the rapids to Queenston, Ont., successfully. James McIntyre and James H. Jones were aboard the boat and also made the trip, involuntarily, it is said. This feat won for Robinson great fame, and it has gone on record as the opening of navigation in the whirlpool rapids.

HYDRAULIC CANAL CONSTRUCTION.

In 1853, when Niagara City was feeling the effects of the big boom consequent upon the starting of the railway suspension bridge, the sister village of Niagara Falls also had something to keep her courage up. For years great confidence had been felt in the future of the place because of the water power resources. In 1840 General Peter B. Porter and Augustus Porter had devised a practical plan for the development of power. General Peter B. Porter died in 1844, and in 1847 Augustus Porter issued a circular describing a plan practically the same as now in use by the Niagara Falls Hydraulic Power & Manufacturing Company. Hope ran high in the village. There was a belief that the expectations of years were about to be realized. The Porters most generously offered to give the land necessary for a canal construction, and in 1852 they did give the right of way and negotiations were commenced with Caleb J. Woodhull and Walter Bryant. An agreement was reached whereby these men were to construct the canal, and they received a plot of land with 600 feet frontage on the upper river and 100 feet wide the entire length of the canal, which is 4,400 feet long from the upper to the lower river. They also received about seventy-five acres about the lower end of the canal, having a frontage of nearly a mile along the high bank. In March, 1853, the Niagara Falls Hydraulic Company was incorporated. Caleb J. Woodhull was President, and Walter Bryant, Agent. This company at

once contracted for the construction of a canal seventy feet wide and ten feet deep, with wharves along their land on the upper river. Ground was broken. There was speech-making and applause. The occasion was a glorious one. Work went on for sixteen months, and then it was suspended for lack of funds. In 1858 work was resumed and carried on for a time by the Niagara Falls Water Power Company, of which Stephen M. Allen was President. Soon after this, on Saturday, September 1, 1860, Horace H. Day secured control of the property, and by July 1, 1861, had completed a canal thirty-six feet wide and about eight feet deep. Then came the Civil War with its industrial setbacks. For years the stream from the canal opened from the upper to the low river fell over the bank unused, known by the name "Bridal Veil." In the early seventies Charles B. Gaskill built a grist mill, now the Cataract City mill.

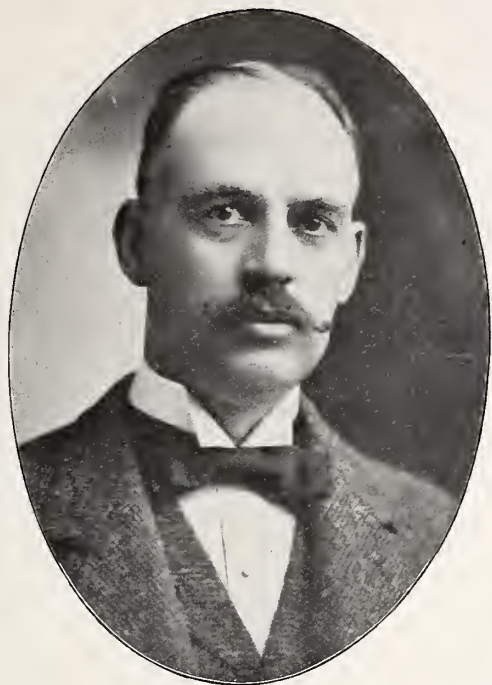
THE COMING OF THE SCHOELLKOPFS.

In 1877 the canal and all of its belongings and rights were purchased by the late Jacob F. Schoellkopf, father of Arthur Schoellkopf, and the late Abram M. Chesbrough, and they organized the Niagara Falls Hydraulic Power & Manufacturing Company. Of this company, Jacob F. Schoellkopf was President to September 15, 1899, the day of his death. Looking back over the years since the Schoellkopfs became interested in the Niagara power development it is plain to be seen that their coming to Niagara was of vast benefit. They came full of enterprise, strict integrity, fine ideas, generous natures, disposed and determined to develop their new possessions to their fullest extent. This they are doing, and every day thousands of people profit by the work they have done and are still doing.

Arthur Schoellkopf has been a great factor in the development of Niagara Falls. He came to the Falls in 1877 to take charge of the hydraulic canal and to assist in the erection of the Niagara Flouring mills, which have capacity for 2,000 barrels daily. Since 1878 Arthur Schoellkopf has acted as Secretary, Treasurer and General Manager of the Niagara Falls Hydraulic Power & Manufacturing Company. He is President of the Niagara Falls Milling Company; President of the Gluck Realty Company; President of the International Theater Company; President of the Cliff Paper Company; President and Treasurer of the International Hotel Company; President of the Power City Bank; Director of the Bank of Niagara and Trustee of the Niagara County Savings Bank. He was elected Mayor in 1896 and made an excellent record in that office.

The development of the canal power has gone steadily on with no interruption. The first users of the canal power bought or leased from the company the right to draw water from the canal, installing their own power plants. In 1881 the company built a new wheel-pit and commenced supplying power to customers, delivery being made by means of belts, shafting and wire cables, which were then the most practicable means of transmitting power. Later compressed air was tried, and this power is being used in the operation of the drills on the canal enlargement today. Under the agreement between the Porters and Messrs. Woodhull & Bryant the land conveyed to them extended only to the edge of the high bank and granted a right to excavate down the bank 100 feet, it not being felt that a higher head would be available, as it was deemed impossible to construct wheels that would stand up under a higher pressure, and the fact is that from fifty to sixty feet was the

head used by the majority of the mills. But hydraulic engineering made rapid strides in the early eighties, and every stride was of benefit to Niagara. Alert to the possibilities, the Niagara Falls Hydraulic Power & Manufacturing Company in 1886 secured a deed of portions of the debris slope below the bank, and have since secured other portions, so that today they are using a head of 210 feet. In 1886 Wallace C. Johnson became the company's chief engineer, and



ARTHUR SCHOELLKOPF.

has since had charge of the development, with the exception of a few months when David P. Jones was chief engineer. In 1892 the Cliff Paper Company leased a part of the debris slope below the high bank and erected a pulp mill. This pulp mill was started in March, 1892, and on March 23, 1893, it was turning out its product. In the pulp mill 2,500 horse power is developed under 120 feet head by using the water discharged from wheels in use above, thus proving that the mill can be operated by water that is passed. The wonderful possibilities offered by electrical transmission of power actuated the Hydraulic Power & Manufacturing Company to erect a power station at the water's edge in the gorge. The first section of this station was started in August, 1895, and in November, 1896, the first power was delivered from it. Since then two additional sections have been added. Today the Niagara Falls Hydraulic Power & Manufacturing Company is developing and supplying about 20,000 electrical horse power, 400 mechanical horse power, and 7,000 hydraulic horse power. The canal has nearly reached the width of the original right of way, 100 feet, and it is being materially deepened. There has been no interruption of benefit to the city since the present company was organized.

BELLEVUE CHANGED TO NIAGARA CITY.

It was on June 8, 1854, that the name Bellevue gave way to Niagara City, this being the date of incorporation. The petition for this step was dated April 21, 1854. The name Niagara City gave way, officially, to Suspension Bridge, on June 6, 1874, but long before that Suspension Bridge was the popular name. Niagara Falls is one of the prominent ports of entry of the United States, but previous to 1863 the port of entry was at Lewiston. Fifty years ago the residents of the Town of Niagara were hopeful that the government would construct a ship canal about the falls, and a leader in that movement was Colonel John Fisk.

CHERRY STREET NAMED.

The Prospect Park House, originally the residence of General Peter B. Porter, was erected previous to 1840, the grounds about it extending from Grant's block to Falls Street. Around on First Street B. H. White owned land, and he and Albert H. Porter gave land to open the street now known as Cherry Street, so named because when it was opened it passed through a cherry orchard. As this street was opened early it was settled early. It was here that the old harness shop of William Sturdy stood, being about the same today with additions. On the east side Abner Swallow lived. His widow is still alive in Buffalo, and is among those who have clear recollections of Niagara. Main Street was the principal street.

HOTEL HISTORY.

The Falls Hotel stood at the northwest corner of Falls and Main Streets. Among those who kept it were Thomas Fanning, B. F. Childs, Mr. Redding, Fred West and Jonas Minton. While Minton was proprietor the house burned and was not rebuilt, the name being later taken by the present Falls Hotel, which was kept for seven years by R. A. Ferguson and after him by the late Chester R. Whiting and now by his relatives. This house was previously known as the Western Hotel. The St. Lawrence Hotel stood on the site of the E. M. Clark property on Main Street. The Niagara House was built by John Shelterburg. The site of the Gluck Block on Falls Street has a history as a hotel site. The first hotel there was the Clarendon, kept by E. R. Avery, who in February, 1859, sold it to E. T. Chappell, who changed the name to "The American." The American was destroyed by fire, and the new house was called "The Empire." This house also burned. Soon after, Alvah Gluck, and a man named Spence, rebuilt it and called it "The Spencer House." It was opened in 1867 and on the night of Wednesday, March 16, 1892, the house burned. Hancock & Samways kept the old Empire at one time. The present Empire Hotel on the southwest corner of Falls and Second Streets was formerly the United States Hotel, having been kept for years by Michael McMahon. The house was renamed the "Empire" in 1901, when the fourth story was added and the house improved.

The northwest corner of Falls and Second Streets is also famous in hotel history. Years ago this corner was owned by Jeremiah Binkley who built a two story tenement house of stone. Then it crept into hotel life and was known as the New York Central. Later the west end was known as the Franklin House and the east end as the Western Hotel. Alvah Gluck kept the Franklin House and John Salt the Western. James Salt and S. J. Tobey kept the Western after John Salt for about two years. The Western gave way to the Imperial and the Franklin House to the Hotel Porter, named after the late R. D. Porter, who also owned the Niagara House on Main Street. Later the Hotel Porter lost its individuality by being merged with the Imperial. William Hearst was the first landlord of the Imperial, and Robert Murphy ran the Hotel Porter. C. N. Owen took possession of the Hotel Porter in September, 1895. On October 8, 1898, it was damaged by fire, the interior suffering badly but the walls standing. It was soon after repaired, and the present arrangement of stores made on the Falls Street front.

In the fifties Dr. Conger kept a drug store on Main Street opposite the Cataract House. North of this was W. E. Hulett's grocery and dry goods store, in which was

kept bead work and Indian curiosities. It is said that W. E. Hulett and T. G. Hulett were the pioneers in this souvenir business at the Falls. A. W. Allen's tailor shop was close by. John Hancock had a candy store on the street, and next to it was Dr. W. O. Davis' office, he being a brother of the late Cyrus Davis, so well remembered. Christy & Waddell had a tailor shop in the Porter block. The post-office was in Conger's drug store. W. F. Evans came to the Falls April 3, 1849, and in the fifties kept a grocery store on Main Street north of Falls Street, west side, the store still being occupied for grocery purposes. The Frontier Mart was erected in 1854 by A. S. and P. B. Porter. The Niagara Falls Shooting Club had its quarters on the second floor. This was a popular organization in those days. In 1857 the Frontier Mart was occupied by H. Nielson, wine and liquor store; James Waddell, merchant tailor; a variety store; W. E. Barber, boots and shoes; P. O. Bachman, flour and feed; Mr. F. Tomkins, groceries and provisions. Pool & Sleeper, publishers and printers, were upstairs as was also J. W. Slater, dentist, and the canal office.

NIAGARA'S VETERAN EDITOR.

This review gives an idea of the conditions that existed in the two former villages at the time both were leaping to greatness in the fifties. Bellevue, or Niagara City, was joyous over the bridge construction, and Niagara Falls boomed because of the power development project. The year 1854 saw Hon. William Pool, a resident of Niagara Falls. He had been on the Lockport Courier, and with Augustus Porter and B. F. Sleeper became interested in starting the Gazette as a weekly newspaper. Mr. Porter took great interest in the paper, and was a frequent contributor to its columns, having written the leader in the first number, in which he predicted a great future for Niagara. His writings were widely copied. Mr. Pool continued in this connection until 1864, when he became sole proprietor of the Gazette. In 1880 he sold it to the Hon. Peter A. Porter, and under his able management the Gazette continued, as it still continues, to advocate all that is good for the locality.

When Peter A. Porter acquired possession of the paper the late Don C. Collins was made editor. In January, 1884, Hon. William Pool and his son, Rupert Pool, started the Niagara Courier. Ever since Mr. Pool has wielded the editorial pen his writings have been in support of the up-building and advancement of the Niagara locality, and in this he has aided in no small degree.

The year 1854 also brought the late Hazard H. Sheldon to Niagara. Thomas Tugby came to Niagara Falls in 1852. Among the old residents now deceased none will be better remembered than the late James F. Trott, Franklin Spalding and S. F. Symonds. For a half century James F. Trott was President of the Board of Education, and in this capacity had to do with the early education of many present residents. Morris L. Fox, Captain Filkins, Osborne Canfield and George W. Holley, who came in 1840, and published a book on Niagara, will also be recalled. Henry Smith, father of Joseph Smith, came to the Niagara City in 1854, and Theodore Hager in 1853.

NIAGARA SADDENED BY COL. PORTER'S DEATH.

The breaking out of the Civil War had a disastrous effect on the Niagara locality. Previous to it many Southerners came to the falls, and both sides of the river enjoyed their patronage. Their visits were extended to weeks at a time, and old hotel keepers love to recall those days. With the breaking out of the war business came to a standstill,

but the citizens of Niagara responded nobly to the call for men. Of this much has been written. In June, 1864, the entire Niagara locality was saddened by the death of Colonel Peter A. Porter, who fell while gallantly leading his men at the Battle of Cold Harbor, June 3, 1864. One week later his funeral occurred from St. Peter's Church, the service being conducted by Rev. Mr. Starkey, the pastor, Rev. Dr. Shelton, of Buffalo, and Rev. Mr. Clarke, of Syracuse. He was Colonel of the Eighth New York Heavy Artillery, and his death was a sad blow to Niagara.

In the five years from 1860 to 1865 the population of Niagara Falls fell off 636, and that of Niagara City increased 269, and the Town of Niagara lost 39 residents. The loss of Niagara Falls and the gain of Niagara City was explained "by Irish shanties moving from the canal lands to the bridge." At that time there seemed to be many new buildings, but there was much inquiry for houses. In the succeeding years both former villages grew. The railroad business at Suspension Bridge increased rapidly.

WATER WORKS CONSTRUCTION.

In 1867 Obadiah W. Cutler became a resident of Suspension Bridge and he at once took a lively interest in the welfare and progress of the village. He bought out the drug store of W. H. Wallace at the corner of Main Street and Ontario Avenue, and remained at this stand and in this business until 1876, when he sold to Adams & Rommel, the members of the firm being Henry C. Adams and Emanuel Rommel. Mr. Cutler early won popularity in his new home. He advocated a municipal water system, and about 1872-73 a bill passed the Legislature enabling the village to avail itself of the advantages in this respect. In 1875 the water system of Suspension Bridge was installed, the cost of the original plant having been \$56,500. The first fire after the system was completed was in the old Mansion House, then the property of Thomas McMahon. Up to this time there had been much kicking about the water system, but the manner in which this fire was extinguished made friends for the plant. Observing how successful the Suspension Bridge water system was, the village of Niagara Falls was enthused and the Niagara Falls Water Works Company formed with Franklin Spalding, President; Benjamin Rhodes, Secretary; F. R. Delano, Treasurer, and the above named with Stoughton Pettebone, Dexter R. Jerauld, Alvah Gluck and William F. Evans, Trustees. Three miles and a half of mains were laid in Niagara Falls, while Suspension Bridge had four and a half miles. Each village had twenty-seven double discharge hydrants. The Niagara Falls mains were supplied from the Suspension Bridge pumping station. The private company was capitalized at \$25,000. Fire insurance rates were reduced with the installation of the water system. In effecting the installation of the water works, Mr. Cutler and other friends of the movement met with serious opposition, even the progressive New York Central seeking an injunction. In other ways Mr. Cutler has been a factor in the advancement of the locality. He was Treasurer of the Village of Suspension Bridge in 1872-73, President in 1875-76, and Supervisor of the Town of Niagara in 1875. From 1886 to 1890 he was Collector of the Port of Suspension Bridge. In 1895 he was Mayor of the City of Niagara Falls.

BUILDING OF THE UPPER BRIDGE.

Rumors of bridge building were many. The old Pleasure Ground was a favorite site, especially with B. H. White. Finally, after much opposition, a franchise was obtained for the construction of a bridge close to the falls.



MIGHELLS B. BUTLER.



GEORGE G. SHEPARD.



J. M. HANCOCK.



SOLOMON C. NEALE.



JAMES J. MAHONEY.



C. E. TUCKER.



FREDERICK CHORMANN.

Connections were made between the cliffs by carrying a rope across on the ice. The structure built was a suspension bridge, and it was formally opened to the public on January 2, 1869. It had a width of about ten feet. In 1872 steel supplanted wood in the bottom chord, and in 1884 the old wooden towers gave way to towers of steel. In October, 1887, the work of widening the bridge begun, and it was completed June 13, 1888. This work was done under the supervision of G. M. Harrington, who came to the Falls June 20, 1872, and was for years Superintendent of the bridge. On the night of January 9, 1889, a hurricane swept down the Niagara gorge from the southwest and tore the suspended structure from the cables, dropping it upside down on the debris slope of the bank and in the river, where it still remains, with the exception of some of the steel taken from the ends. Dr. John Hodge was the last person to cross it before it fell. By May 7, 1889, a duplicate bridge had been erected and opened to travel. The present upper steel arch was built in 1897-98, and when it was erected the former suspension bridge was taken down, and thus the last great suspension bridge at Niagara Falls disappeared.

NIAGARA'S FIRST TELEPHONE.

In March, 1878, the first telephone in Niagara County was installed between the Cataract Bank and the residence of F. R. Delano. The Cataract Bank was opposite the International Hotel, and Mr. Delano's residence was at the corner of Main and Niagara Streets. It was such a wonderful curiosity that people were allowed to see it between the hours of four and six P. M. Today Niagara Falls has two telephone systems with about 1,700 instruments in service.

FIRST STREET RAILWAY.

On October 20, 1882, the Niagara Falls & Suspension Bridge Street Railway Company secured a charter, and the next day articles of association were filed. The original capital was \$50,000. The line was commenced July 3, 1882, and was operated by horses until July 15, 1892. The line as originally built started from the monument at the foot of Falls Street and ran to the New York Central crossing of Main Street in the Village of Suspension Bridge. It was a single track line with nine turnouts or switches. It was afterwards double tracked. In 1890 the line was sold to C. B. Gaskill and others, afterwards passing into the hands of the International Traction Company.

WHEN THE MICHIGAN CENTRAL CAME.

The eighties were years of progress for Niagara. The Niagara Falls Hydraulic Power & Manufacturing Company had been organized and their development progressed rapidly. New industries were added, and the village bounded ahead. At Suspension Bridge happiness was created by the advent of the Michigan Central and the construction of the cantilever bridge. This bridge was commenced April 15, 1883, and completed December 1, 1883. It was the first double track bridge built across the gorge. A new truss was added to it in 1900.

BRIGHTENED BY FREE NIAGARA.

On April 30, 1883, the State Legislature passed an act authorizing the selection, location and appropriation of certain lands in the village of Niagara Falls for a State reservation, and to preserve the scenery at Niagara. Commissioners were appointed, and they met at Niagara on June 9, 1883, and viewed the lands. They passed a resolution defining what, in their estimation, the boundaries should be, comprising an area of 107 acres. Luther R. Marsh, of New

York, Matthew Hale, of Albany; Pascal P. Pratt, of Buffalo, were appointed commissioners of appraisement, and their awards for the land taken amounted to \$1,433,429.50, but the claims of the owners amounted to \$4,000,000. On July 15, 1885, the State reservation was formally opened to the public, "free to all mankind forever." The opening of the Free Park was the redemption of Niagara. Each year the reservation has been beautified along plans designed to restore the locality about the falls to its original state. Of all this work, Hon. Thomas V. Welch has had charge as Superintendent, and in its present perfect condition the reservation is more or less a monument to his interest in the welfare of Niagara.

There was a noble gathering in Niagara Falls on July 15, 1885, to welcome the opening of the park. The vast assemblage was called to order by the Hon Erastus Brooks, who made an eloquent address. The subject was one that inspired the speakers and made the large audience very appreciative. Rt. Rev. A. Cleveland Coxe offered the prayer. On behalf of the Commission, its President, the late Hon. William Dorsheimer, announced the completion of the proceedings for the taking of the lands at Niagara for park purposes, and the Hon. David B. Hill, Governor of the State, accepted the reservation in a delightful historical address. An oration was delivered by James C. Carter, of New York, and speeches were made by His Excellency John Beverly Robinson, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Ontario, and Hon. Oliver Mowat, Attorney General of the same Province. The first Chairman of the Board of Reservation Commissioners was Martin B. Anderson, who was elected May 29, 1883. The second Chairman was Hon William Dorsheimer, who was elected June 9, 1883. On May 26, 1888, Hon. Andrew H. Green succeeded Mr. Dorsheimer and thus became the third Chairman of the Board.

INSPIRATION OF 42ND SEPARATE COMPANY.

The grand military pageant in the village on the occasion of the opening of the State Reservation was of vast benefit to Niagara Falls and to this day the fruits of the occasion are being enjoyed. This display created a belief that Niagara Falls should have a company of militia, and the subject was discussed with interest. The proper authorities were consulted, and suitable papers for making application having been received the initial meeting was held Thursday evening, August 20, 1885, in the office of Charles E. Cromley. At this time the preliminary steps were taken, and over sixty names were signed to the application. Charles E. Cromley was made Chairman of the meeting, and he described the steps necessary to be taken for organization. A. H. Gluck, Dr. W. R. Campbell, Martin V. Pearson, Walter Jones and George H. Salt were appointed a committee to name three persons for the positions of Captain, First Lieutenant and Second Lieutenant. The membership list was kept open until Saturday evening, August 22, and Arthur Schoellkopf, Fred I. Pierce, Charles P. Graves, Robert Neil Campbell, Byron B. Young and Frank Oliver appointed a committee on membership. On Saturday evening, August 22, 1885, the adjourned meeting was held at the International Hotel, and after a sharp contest the following officers were chosen: Captain, Charles B. Gaskill; First Lieutenant, Lauren W. Pettebone; Second Lieutenant, Mighells B. Butler. On Wednesday, September 23, 1885, word was received by Mr. Cromley that the papers had been placed in the hands of the Adjutant General, and within a few days word came that the application had been approved by the Governor. On Wednesday evening, October 28, 1885, the applicants met Inspector-General Briggs in the Prospect

Park pavilion, who made a favorable report, and Governor David B. Hill, Commander-in-Chief of the National Guard of the State issued Order No. 100 designating the organization as "Forty-second Separate Company, National Guard, State of New York." On Wednesday evening, November 20, 1885, the company was mustered into service in Prospect Park by Colonel Thomas H. McGrath, Assistant Inspector-General of the State, Assisted by Lieutenant-Colonel, S. M. Welch, of the Sixty-fifth Regiment, of Buffalo. The muster roll bore eighty-four names, and seventy-eight privates answered to call at muster. On Tuesday, November 24, 1885, the first drill of the company was held in the park pavilion. On November 28, 1885, the civil organization was perfected, as follows: President, Captain C. B. Gaskill; Secretary, R. M. Pool; Treasurer, C. M. Young; Surgeon, Dr. E. H. Griswold; Chaplin, Rev. G. F. Rosenmuller. December 12, 1885, the following non-commissioned officers were elected: Sergeants, Fred I. Pierce, Frank De Veaux, Samuel J. Mason and John M. Hancock; Corporals, F. W. Oliver, John F. Kraemer, William A. Philpott, Jr., Harry ap Rees, Charles S. Rice, Charles H. Piper, Jr., William H. Dean and George Barker. Robert A. Schuyler was appointed Quartermaster Sergeant by Captain Gaskill. On April 22, 1886, the company drilled in a roller skating rink located on Canal Street, now Riverway, opposite the park. Two nights later they drilled in their new uniforms for the first time. On the morning of May 30, 1886, the company first attended divine service, at St. Peter's Church. That year they took part in the Memorial Day observance. On July 4, 1886, the company went to Lockport. The first annual inspection occurred September 7, 1886. On September 16, 1886, the company went in camp at Youngstown. The company's first armory was the large frame building now owned by the city on Walnut Avenue. It was built in the spring of 1887, and formally opened with a grand military ball on the night of Tuesday, June 7, 1887. The present armory on Main Street was opened November 20, 1895, just ten years after the company was mustered into service. The company has a noble record. C. B. Gaskill resigned as Captain of the company November 9, 1890, and his discharge bears date December 30, 1890. Mighells B. Butler succeeded Gaskill as Captain, and his commission is dated January 13, 1891. Butler was Captain of the company when it was called to service in the Spanish-American war. He remained as Captain until commissioned Major in the United States Volunteer service in May, 1898. At this period in its career the Forty-second Separate Company became Company E, Third Provisional Regiment, and Hector W. McBean, who was First Lieutenant, became Captain, following Butler's promotion. He was commissioned May 17, 1898. Captain McBean brought the company home and on the muster out of the volunteer service he returned to his former position of First Lieutenant. In this position he was in command, but went west, and on June 29, 1899, he received his honorable discharge as First Lieutenant. On March 23, 1899, George G. Shepard was commissioned Captain, and is now in command of the company. At the time of the Spanish-American war the company left Niagara Falls on May 1, 1898, returning September 13, 1898. The company was in no engagements, passing the time at Camp Alger and Camp Meade. There was much complaint of harsh treatment by the men, and the city instructed the late Rev. Willis E. Dudley, then pastor of the First Congregational Church, to go to Camp Meade and make an investigation. His report was made under date of September 9,

1898, and was to the effect that "the present condition of the Third New York does not warrant fault-finding and blame of past times." William Frederick Stricker, son of Gottlieb Stricker, died of typhoid fever at Fort Meyer. His body was brought home and on Sunday, August 28, 1898, Niagara Falls buried her first soldier of the Spanish War. The funeral was one of the largest ever seen in Niagara Falls. Four fire companies came from Niagara Falls, Ontario, with a band. Those members of the company who did not go out formed the 142d Separate Company, and were in line at the funeral. When the deceased left home he was President of the Independent Hose Company.

HON. FRANK A. DUDLEY.

It was in 1886 that Hon. Frank A. Dudley came to Niagara Falls to make it his permanent residence. He entered the law office of Hon. W. Caryl Ely, and in 1887 the



HON. F. A. DUDLEY.

firm became Ely & Dudley, and when Mr. Ely retired to become President of the International Traction Company the firm was changed to Dudley, Gray & Highland. During the years of his residence here Mr. Dudley has become closely identified with many of the industries and corporations, and is now President of the Niagara Falls Gas & Electric Light Company, Vice President of the Electric City Bank, and has other important connections in the county. He is looked upon as an active promoter of Niagara's welfare.

NEW BUILDINGS OF 1887.

In 1887 many important new buildings were erected, among them being Davis' museum, the Arcade, the Forty-second Armory, Erie depot, brewery addition, Prospect House, Harvey House, Dolphin's Hotel, Silberberg's block, Hannan's block, Lang's block, Kellar block, Nassoii's block and Hager's block.

Early on the afternoon of Thursday, January 26, 1888, the old New York Central depot at the corner of Falls and Second Streets was destroyed by fire.

THE DAY OF DAYS FOR NIAGARA.

In the fall of 1885, after the State acquired the reservation, the late Thomas Evershed, of Rochester, was engaged to make a map of the possessions. About this time Lockport was talking about developing power to a large extent, and the Lockport plan attracted the attention of Mr. Ever-

shed. He wrote a letter to the press in which he suggested that a tunnel be built at Niagara, to be used as a tail race, to carry off the water from turbines operated by water that flowed from the upper river through a number of lateral canals. His suggestion was that the tunnel extend from the lower river to Schlosser. Mr. Evershed's letter attracted the attention of M. H. Kinsley, then of the Oneida Community, Limited, of Niagara Falls, who spoke to Charles B. Gaskill about it. He also spoke to the late Henry S. Ware, but none of these gentlemen knew Mr. Evershed. By them Mr. Kinsley was directed to see Hon. T. V. Welch, and one evening Mr. Kinsley dropped into the store of Welch & Rock on Falls Street and inquired of Mr. Welch about Evershed. He read the newspaper clipping of Evershed's letter. Mr. Welch and Mr. Kinsley decided to telegraph Evershed to come to Niagara, and a telegram was at once sent to him. Next morning Mr. Evershed arrived at the Falls, and going to Mr. Welch inquired if there was anything wrong with the map, showing that even he had not continued in thought of the power plan. He was surprised when he learned the real object of the call. With Evershed in town a meeting was called for the old paper mill office on Bath Island, then the office of the Reservation Commissioners, and there M. H. Kinsley, Charles B. Gaskill, Michael Ryan, Thomas Evershed, Thomas V. Welch and Hon. W. Caryl Ely, then a newcomer, gathered to discuss the power possibilities. The result was that it was decided to apply to the Legislature for a charter. Other men were taken into the project, and the bill offered by Hon. Peter A. Porter, then in the Assembly, passed March 31, 1886. The company organized by electing Charles B. Gaskill, President; Henry S. Ware, First Vice President; Michael Ryan, Second Vice President; M. H. Kinsley, Secretary; George N. Miller, Assistant Secretary; Francis R. Delano, Treasurer and Thomas Evershed, Engineer. This done, the men interested started out to enlist capital. A prospectus was written by Hon. T. V. Welch, and Thomas Evershed prepared a map and a report. Stock books were opened, but later this plan was abandoned, and other means taken of securing capital. Armed with documents and facts Hon. Thomas V. Welch was sent to New York. The date of his first visit there was October 19, 1886, on which date he called on several prominent men in the interest of the project, among them Hon. Chauncey M. Depew, John A. McCall and others. On October 20, 1886, he called on William B. Rankine and presented a letter of introduction given him by A. Augustus Porter, in whose office Mr. Rankine had studied law. Mr. Rankine was then a member of Hawkesworth & Rankine, and it was on this date October 20, 1886, that the influence of the Niagara tunnel project entered his life. Mr. Rankine advised Mr. Welch to see Francis Lynde Stetson, with whom Mr. Welch was acquainted. On October 22, 1886, Mr. Welch saw D. O. Mills, and talked with him about the project. On November 3, 1886, Mr. Welch was making his second visit to New York in the interest of the scheme, and on November 4, 1886, he saw Francis Lynde Stetson. Mr. Stetson became interested, and said he would take it up with capitalists he knew.

In the meantime Raymond S. Perrin, of New York, came to Niagara Falls and obtained an option on the company's franchise. When Mr. Stetson was informed of this action of the company he was offended and protested against it, and under the circumstances he decided to drop further consideration of the plan. Perrin carried his option

to England and organized a company. While the estimated cost of the tunnel was \$3,000,000 Perrin planned to capitalize his company at 3,000,000 pounds. He cabled that success was assured. The Duke of Teck, father of the present Princess of Wales, was to be President of the company. Such cablegrams as these made the hearts of the Niagara Falls men jump with joy, and their meetings, originally held in the Cataract Bank, but later in the office of Augustus S. Porter, brought visions of royalty. Finally, Perrin's plan collapsed, and an Englishman named Bowick came over, claiming he could help the matter. An agreement was made with him; he filed a bond in New York, and documents were also filed there. While dealing with this gentleman Messrs. Gaskill, Welch and Kinsley were in New York and attended a presentation of "Jim the Penman." They had seen so many ups and downs of the cherished plan that they wondered if they were then in touch with one who would deceive them. Bowick's plan also failed. Several brokers took the matter up, and finally Messrs. Stetson and Rankine were induced to again interest themselves in the project. These negotiations resulted in the organization of the Cataract Construction Company to build the tunnel and power house. This company was incorporated June 13, 1889. It was the company formed to construct the work for the Niagara Falls Power Company. This latter company was incorporated November 11, 1889, at which time the name "Niagara Falls Power Company," succeeded the more cumbersome name "Niagara Falls River Hydraulic Tunnel, Power & Sewer Company of Niagara Falls, New York." It is the Niagara Falls Power Company that is carrying on the marvelous development of today. Of this company, D. O. Mills, of New York, is President, and it was on October 22, 1886, that he received his first information of the great project through Mr. Welch. Edward D. Adams was President of the Cataract Construction Company. This company having practically completed the tunnel, inlet canal and power house No. 1 by June 1, 1899, finished its work of construction for the Niagara Falls Power Company, and since that date the Niagara Falls Power Company has been doing its own construction work.

Notable among those who became interested in the development were Francis Lynde Stetson, William B. Rankine, J. Pierpont Morgan, Hamilton McK. Twombly, Edward A. Wickes, Morris K. Jessup, D. O. Mills, Charles F. Clark, Edward D. Adams, Charles Lanier, A. J. Forbes-Leith, Frederick W. Whitridge, William K. Vanderbilt, George S. Bowdoin, Joseph Larocque and John Jacob Astor. It was decided to build an inlet canal, a wheel-pit and a tunnel. An International Niagara Commission, consisting of Lord Kelvin, Dr. Coleman Sellers, Prof. E. Mascart, Prof. W. C. Unwin and Colonel Th. Turretini, met in London, England, in June, 1890, and the features of the installation agreed upon.

On October 4, 1890, ground for the tunnel work was broken. The start was made at shaft No. 1, on the corner of Falls and Erie Streets. There were no daily papers printed in the city then, and the only announcement the people had of the commencement of the great work was through small hand bills, which read: "Formal commencement of work on the tunnel, Saturday, October 4, 1890. At shaft No. 1, corner Falls and Erie Streets, at 10:30 a. m." The ceremony begun at 10:38 a. m. The first sod was turned with a silver shovel by Charles B. Gaskill, following a brief speech, the exact moment being 10:42 a. m., October 4, 1890. The crowd gave three cheers for Mr. Gaskill. E. D.



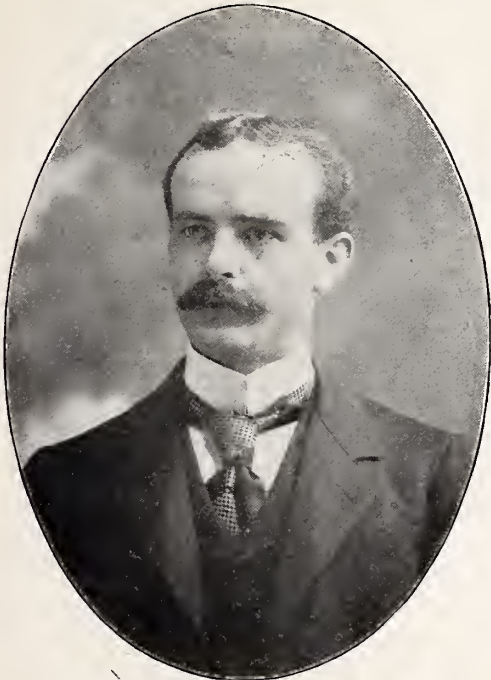
G. F. DIEMER.



JAMES VEDDER.



C. F. CANAVAN.



ALFRED W. GRAY.



HARRY HIGHLAND.



WALTER P. HORNE.



FRANCIS H. SALT.



S. A. DOUGLASS.



HARRY C. STINE.

Adams, President of the Cataract Construction Company, made a brief speech. The Construction Company was cheered. Hon. T. V. Welch spoke at length and deafening applause followed his remarks. Then Alexander J. Porter, Francis R. Delano, W. Caryl Ely, Benjamin Flagler, Peter A. Porter, Myron H. Kinsley, John P. Pfetsch, Edward A. Wickes, William B. Rankine, John Bogart, Mr. Maxim, Albert H. Porter, each removed a shovelful of earth. The participants were then driven to the Cataract House, where lunch was enjoyed, "The Prosperity of Niagara Falls" being the subject of a toast by President Adams.

From that day to this the prosperity of Niagara Falls has been remarkable. In the first power house erected 50,000 horse power is developed by ten mammoth generators operated by the same number of turbines, and now, within a few days, the first power is to be supplied from power house No. 2, which will have an output capacity of 55,000 horse power, making 105,000 horse power in all from the installations of the two pits and stations. The tunnel is 7,436½ feet long, twenty-one feet high, eighteen feet ten inches wide, built in the form of a horseshoe and lined with vitrified brick throughout. Wheel-pit No. 1 is 424 feet seven inches long, eighteen feet five inches wide, and 178 feet five inches deep. The turbines work under a head of 136 feet.

Wheel-pit No. 2 is 463 feet eight inches long, eighteen and one-half feet wide, 178½ feet deep. The turbines work under a head of 145 feet. Starting at the turbine deck in each pit there is a connecting tunnel 310 feet long between the two wheel-pits. On the night of May 31, 1901, the installation of station and pit No. 1 was shut down, and on Sunday morning, June 1, between the hours of midnight and 7 a. m. an official inspection was made of the tunnel from end to end, showing it to be in the most perfect condition. At this time the bulkhead between the original tunnel and the tunnel extension was torn out, thus connecting wheel-pit No. 2 with the tunnel. The Pittsburg Reduction Company was the first concern to avail itself of the new development. Each passing year has brought new industries until today Niagara is the envy of the world, owing to its manufacturing and shipping facilities. The first generator in power house No. 1 was operated April 4, 1895. William A. Brackenridge has been connected with the Niagara Falls Power Company several years as resident engineer, and as such has had charge of the great plants during the period of construction and installation. The upper works of the Pittsburg Reduction Company were opened August 28, 1895, and since that date new industries have kept coming with generous freedom in sincere recognition of Niagara's greatness. The Carborundum Company, organized by E. G. Acheson, the discoverer of that interesting and valuable process, came in the fall of 1895, and later Mr. Acheson demonstrated further appreciation of Niagara power by establishing his artificial graphite plant here. Since those days the lands of the Niagara Falls Power Company have many times felt the thrill of the plow as excavations were made for new manufacturing plants, and Niagara Falls has grown to be the recognized electro-chemical center of America, while its advancement along other lines has been equally pleasing.

WILLIAM B. RANKINE.

[The author of this article asked Peter A. Porter, (who is a personal friend of the phenomenally successful, yet modest, business man, whose portrait appears herewith) to write a brief sketch of him and, in response he penned the following.]

The really great business man, the one whose ability builds up vast enterprises and who yet does so in a way that does not oppress his less fortunate neighbor, is the one who "makes" his locality, and is the kind of man that every community needs. To a large extent such business men are rare. Niagara County, in fact this whole Frontier, owes much of its prosperity today to the various enterprises in which William B. Rankine and the capitalists with whom he is associated, and whom he represents, are interested. Of these enterprises he has supervised the growth of many and is prominent in the administration of all. The principal one is the Niagara Falls Power Company, which supplies electric



power to many factories near the plant and transmits it to many others at Lockport, the Tonawandas and Buffalo; also supplies this power for the lighting of all the cities on the Frontier and for the operation of 350 miles of electric railways hereabouts. The others include the Natural Food Company, of Niagara Falls; the International Railway Company, of which he was one of the principal organizers, and the several subsidiary companies of the Power Company, of all of which latter company as well as of the great Power Company itself, he is the resident executive officer.

He was born in Owego, New York, 1858, and is the son of an eminent Divine of the Episcopal Church; a graduate of Union College and a lawyer, who practiced his profession successfully for ten years in New York City. For the past twelve years his attention has been solely devoted to the legal and executive work of the many great commercial enterprises, whose interests are largely centered at Niagara Falls, where he now resides. A longer biography is unnecessary. In the words inscribed on the great tablet

to Sir Christopher Wren, in St. Paul's Cathedral, London: Si Monumentum requiris circumspecte.

VILLAGES ATTAIN CITYHOOD.

During the several years previous to this the Gazette, the paper then owned by Hon. Peter A. Porter, had advocated cityhood, but the idea had failed to find favor. However, the breaking of ground for the tunnel developed brighter prospects, and the semi-weekly of Saturday, November 15, 1890, again advocated cityhood. The manner in which the subject was taken up again at that time is worthy of record, for it brings into prominence with the movement a man who was born in Niagara Falls, January 25, 1855, and who has always held the esteem of the public, having been Clerk of the Town of Niagara from 1882 to 1891. This is James F. Murphy, the well known and popular insurance agent. One day Mr. Murphy inquired of the editor of the paper referred to, "Why don't you pick up the question of making the two villages a city?" The suggestion was acted upon, and the editorial above mentioned written. The tunnel was in process of construction. Both villages knew it was destined to be of vast benefit. Everybody was hopeful to a greater degree than in many years before. Interviews with prominent men in both of the former villages followed the editorial in succeeding issues of the paper, and on December 6, 1890, Hon. W. Caryl Ely offered a resolution at a meeting of the Business Men's Association that the executive committee be authorized to take steps for the preparation of a city charter. Thomas V. Welch, Charles E. Cromley, James Davy, W. H. Woolworth and others discussed the resolution, and it was carried unanimously. From that time on the question was a very live one, and on March 17, 1892, the two villages and a portion of the Town of Niagara became the City of Niagara Falls, Governor Rosewell P. Flower signing the bill incorporating them as such.

A WINTER WEDDING.

Up to this time this has been a tale of two villages. Now the story of that winter wedding will begin. Governor Flower signed the bill about 6 p. m. About 10 o'clock that night fire broke out in the Spencer House, corner of Falls and Second Streets, and when the City of Niagara Falls was ushered in the sky all about was red with flames, and thus was the city of Niagara Falls and St. Patrick's Day, 1902, born. The committee on city charter commenced work Thursday, February 19, 1891. James Low was chairman and George W. Wright, Secretary. Their labor was completed on Tuesday evening, January 26, 1892, and on Wednesday, February 3, the charter went to Albany, where it was introduced February 5. In accordance with the provisions of the city charter Henry W. Cornell, the last President of the Village of Suspension Bridge, gave notice that a joint meeting of the Boards of Trustees of the two villages would be held Tuesday, March 22, 1892, at 8 p. m. At that meeting there were present, officially, Henry W. Cornell, President; John C. Stricker, John E. Noblett, Walter P. Horne and Philip Rosendale, Trustees of the Village of Suspension Bridge; John C. Jenny, Clerk of the Village Board; George W. Wright, President; A. F. Allen, G. M. Harrington, Frank E. Smith, William Campbell, Trustees of the Village of Niagara Falls. G. M. Harrington acted as Clerk. The first election was set for Tuesday, April 19, 1892. On Tuesday afternoon, March 29, the Democratic city convention nominated George W. Wright for Mayor; Charles H. Piper, Jr., for Police Justice and C. T. Canavan for City Treasurer. That evening the Republicans held their convention and

nominated Benjamin Flagler for Mayor; Frank E. Bradford for City Treasurer, and endorsed Piper for Police Justice. These were the first city conventions held in Niagara Falls. Henry W. Cornell was prevailed upon by his friends to head a third ticket for Mayor. George W. Wright defeated both Flagler and Cornell, and thus became the first Mayor of the City of Niagara Falls.

It was the advent of cityhood that inspired O. W. Cutler to establish a daily newspaper April 27, 1892. On March 17, 1893, The Gazette was also established as a daily by Hon. Peter A. Porter. On September 14, 1895, Mr. Porter disposed of the paper to a company organized to purchase it.

MAYORS, PAST AND PRESENT.

From the incorporation of the city to the present time the Mayors have been as follows: George W. Wright, 1892-93; Mighells B. Butler, 1893-94; David Phillips, 1894-95; O. W. Cutler, 1895-96; Arthur Schoellkopf, 1896-97; Arthur C. Hastings, 1897-98-99-1900; Mighells B. Butler, 1900-01-02; John M. Hancock, 1902-03-04.

POWER DEVELOPMENT WAS OF GREAT BENEFIT.

Every business interest appeared to boom with the starting of the new power development. Land values increased to a considerable extent. Many made fortunes, only to lose them in further speculation. Men were made and unmade. Perhaps the growth was somewhat slower than many had hoped for, but the best of all was that it was substantial. Niagara Falls never stepped backward after the influence of the Schoellkopfs was felt and later that of the Niagara Falls Power Company. The influence of the electrical development was tremendous. Captain John M. Brinker had for years planned an electric line through the Niagara gorge, along the water's edge, from Niagara Falls to Lewiston, and on Thursday, July 18, 1895, he had the pleasure of seeing his big undertaking successfully opened. However, since the opening, the company has been reorganized. Bert L. Jones is Manager and Eldred E. Nicklis, Superintendent.

W. CARYL ELY.

Although today a resident of Buffalo, his sojourn of ten years at Niagara Falls, and his present business relations in and with this city, especially in the electric railway and bridges controlled and operated by the International Railway Company, of which he is the President, makes the inclusion of a notice of W. Caryl Ely appropriate here.

Born in Middlefield, Otsego County, in 1856, he was graduated at Cornell University, and in 1882 began his career as a lawyer. He represented his district in the Assembly for this State for three years, the last year being the Democratic (minority) leader. In 1885 he removed to Niagara Falls and for ten years was one of its leading lawyers. In 1894 he organized and built the Niagara Falls & Buffalo Electric Railway, becoming its President, and in 1896 he engineered the acquisition of the branch of the Erie Railroad from North Tonawanda to Lockport and its reconstruction into an electric railway. In 1898, partly through his suggestions and efforts, occurred the great merger of all the trolley lines in Buffalo, Niagara Falls and Lockport and between those three cities, two bridges over the river at Niagara Falls and one at Lewiston and the electric railway on the Canada Frontier, and he became, and is today, President of that corporation. Soon after the trolley was extended from Lockport to Olcott the grove at that place was purchased and great improvement made there. His attention since the merger has been drawn en-

tirely from his profession as a lawyer and devoted to the duties of a railway magnate.

Naturally his interest in Niagara Falls has not been lost and that city still is pleased to class him as one of its own people. He has been prominent in local and State politics, serving at one time as Treasurer of the Democratic State Committee, when that party was in power. As a business man, as a lawyer, as the promoter and developer



W. CARYL ELY.

of a great trolley system, and as the administrative officer of a most important corporation his name is closely and honorably connected with this Frontier.

WISH OF YEARS GRATIFIED.

Up to 1902 the majority of the new manufacturing industries that came to Niagara Falls located in the territory formerly known as the Village of Niagara Falls. It had always been the wish and hope of the residents of the Suspension Bridge section that desirable manufacturing plants locate on some of the broad acres surrounding that business section. Several small plants found prosperity in that section, but in the summer of 1902 it was announced that the Niagara Falls Hydraulic Power & Manufacturing Company had purchased a large block of land on the northeast side of the city and was about to establish a new manufacturing center. Simultaneously, Thomas McDowell, Manager of the Carter-Crume plant, announced that his company would at once proceed to the erection of a large factory in that part of the city.

BIRTH OF ELECTRICAL ENERGY.

Many are given to associating the opening of the electrical era at Niagara Falls with the coming of the developers of large amounts of power, but it was some years before this that Niagara Falls enjoyed its first electrical illumination. Among those who came to Niagara Falls in 1874 was Benjamin Rhodes, a civil engineer of ability and a man with progressive ideas. In being the pioneer in public electric lighting he lost money where others have since grown rich. In 1879 the Prospect Park Company, of which the venerable and respected Hans Nielson was President, installed a forty light brush arc machine in the incline railway building in Prospect Park. Its main object was the illumination of the falls, and this was quite successfully accomplished by lamps placed at various points. The park company installed an electric fountain, and all who saw

it in its palmy days will agree that it was beautiful. This electrical illumination of the falls served to draw very large crowds to Niagara each day and evening, the day crowd remaining to view the falls by night under the new and wonderful light, the colors being changed by means of colored glass. The results afforded pleasing evening entertainment for visitors. In 1881 Benjamin Rhodes, Jacob F. Schoellkopf, Arthur Schoellkopf and Mr. Mathews installed a sixteen light arc machine in the Oneida Community, Limited, plant, and this machine was operated by steam. The machine in the inclined railway building in the park was operated by water power. In the fall of the year, after the excursion season, arc lamps were placed on the streets and in several business places of Niagara Falls. The lamps were of eight-horse capacity, but Harry Huntley, who was a pioneer electrician, of Niagara Falls, succeeded in turning them into twenty-four hour lamps by the use of half-inch carbons. All the lamps then in use were of the single carbon variety. Mr. Huntley aided to establish the original public lighting plant, and was with Mr. Rhodes for about ten years, and the ups and downs of the early illumination formed many of his pleasures and sorrows. The first incandescent lighting plant was installed and operated in the Hill & Murray pulp mill that stood on what was then Cascade Street, near the park. The first incandescent lamps used in public lighting in Niagara Falls were operated from an arc circuit in series multiple. This then was the opening of the electrical era at Niagara. Benjamin Rhodes, who was a prime mover in it, and who spent his money to assist the development, simply blazed the way and made traveling easier for those who followed him. Mr. Rhodes surveyed the original street railway, and in a professional way aided several projects. He was Postmaster at one time.

NIAGARA'S BANKS.

The banking history of the former villages and present city is interesting because it shows splendid development. Some few misfortunes have been attached to this feature of Niagara's growth, but in the main they have been adjusted without great loss. In the early sixties John D. Hamlin, a brother of George and Samuel Hamlin, had a small banking house in the Village of Niagara Falls. In the days of the Civil War people found it very difficult to make change, and it was at that time that T. G. Hulett came to the rescue. He was superintendent of the Niagara Falls Gas Company, and he issued \$1,400 worth of checks in denominations of five, ten, fifteen, twenty, twenty-five, fifty and seventy-five cents. These bore date July 1, 1862. Each one bore the signature of Mr. Hulett. There were two issues. A different engraving appears to have been selected for each denomination. The wording on the checks was as follows: "J. D. Hamlin's banking house, pay the bearer Ten Cents in Current Bank Notes, when presented in Sums of One or more Dollars." All but \$150 worth of these checks were redeemed, and the amount not presented for redemption served to meet the expense of the issue. In 1869 A. M. Chesbrough opened a private bank in an office in the International Hotel, and was succeeded in 1871 by N. K. Van Husen, of Buffalo. At one time Hollis White had a private bank on Main Street. In 1873 F. R. Delano became a partner of Van Husen's, the firm being Van Husen & Delano. In November, 1874, Van Husen retired, the business being continued by F. R. Delano & Company, the members of the firm being Dr. B. L. and F. R. Delano, father and son. On July 9, 1877, the Cataract Bank was incorporated, capital \$50,000. The Cataract Bank failed

July 23, 1893. Along in the seventies Witmer Brothers did a banking business in their mill located near the lower suspension bridge. The banking business grew until they saw the advisability of erecting a banking house on Spring Street, where they carried on a banking business for years until they suspended on August 2, 1884. The Bank of Suspension Bridge was incorporated August 10, 1886, and started business August 16, 1886. The Bank of Niagara started December 12, 1882. The Niagara County Savings Bank began business January 2, 1891. The Frontier Bank of Niagara was incorporated May 23, 1892, and did business at the corner of Main and Niagara Avenues until May 1, 1901, when it went into voluntary liquidation. The First National Bank started May 31, 1893, and did business at the southeast corner of Falls and First Streets until it failed, December 11, 1896. The Power City Bank started June 19, 1893, and the Electric City Bank on December 6, 1895.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

It is said that the Niagara Falls Public Library can trace its history back to 1814, when a few citizens started the Grand Niagara Library with forty books. There were libraries connected with the public schools and these formed the nucleus for the public library that opened February 1, 1895, Mrs. Adele B. Barnum being selected as librarian. James F. Trott was President of the Board until his death, October 26, 1898. Hon. Peter A. Porter succeeded to the Presidency November 25, 1898. Hon. Thomas V. Welch was elected President in January, 1900. The library has 11,636 books on its shelves. In May, 1900, a branch library was opened with Miss Emma J. Kraemer in charge. In 1901 a site was purchased at the corner of Main Street and Ashland Avenue, and plans are now being prepared for a fine new library building, the gift of Andrew Carnegie, who donated \$50,000 for that purpose.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES.

A sketch of the public schools of Niagara Falls will be found in Mr. Atwater's article in this book, at page 48.

Sketches of the churches of Niagara Falls will be found in the series of papers in this book, beginning at page 31, written by pastors of the various denominations.

MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

Up to October 28, 1897, Niagara Falls had been advancing wholly along lines that had to do with the industrial growth of the city, but on the date above mentioned the Niagara Falls Memorial Hospital was opened. This institution is in care of Miss Margaret W. Martin as Superintendent, and is doing magnificent work. At the time the hospital was conceived the heirs of Albert H. Porter, and the family of Mrs. A. Augustus Porter donated a lot and a half and the hospital association purchased another lot. The Memorial Hospital building was erected by Mrs. Jane H. Wheeler, deceased; Miss Elizabeth J. Townsend and Mrs. Lavinia P. T. Pettebone, in memory of their mother, Mrs. Jane S. Townsend. The Louise Memorial Maternity Hospital, adjoining the Emergency Memorial Hospital, is a gift of Benjamin F. Thurston to the city. It was complete in its equipment and furnishings when presented. The wards and rooms in the Emergency Hospital were furnished by various persons and organizations.

POSTMASTERS, PAST AND PRESENT.

When the City of Niagara Falls was incorporated on March 17, 1892, Ensign M. Clark was Postmaster of the Village of Niagara Falls, and John C. Lammerts was Postmaster of the Village of Suspension Bridge. In May, 1893,

Hon. Walter P. Horne succeeded John C. Lammerts as Postmaster at Suspension Bridge, but the Federal Government did not consolidate the two postoffices until July 15, 1894, when Hon. Walter P. Horne became the first Postmaster of the City of Niagara Falls. Mr. Horne held office until July 16, 1898, when Francis H. Salt was appointed, and Mr. Salt is now serving his second term. John C. Jenny is Deputy Postmaster. The city has sixteen mail carriers.

WELCOME PRESIDENT M'KINLEY.

Friday, September 6, 1901, was a day of happiness and extreme sorrow at Niagara Falls. Niagara Falls was the last municipality to entertain President McKinley, and he received the assassin's bullet in Buffalo, when his mind was still impressed by the sublimity of Niagara.

POPULATION.

The census of 1900 gave Niagara Falls a population of 19,457, making it the largest center of population in Niagara County. The two years that have passed since the census was taken have been periods of marvelous growth at Niagara. In this time the city has secured the largest of its manufacturing establishments. These years have brought pleasing prosperity, and it is reasonable to assume that the present population is about 25,000, possibly a little more.

WHEN HENRY D. PERKY CAME.

The coming of Henry D. Perky to Niagara Falls was an incident in the life of the city that had much to do for the good of the municipality and its people. His plans startled



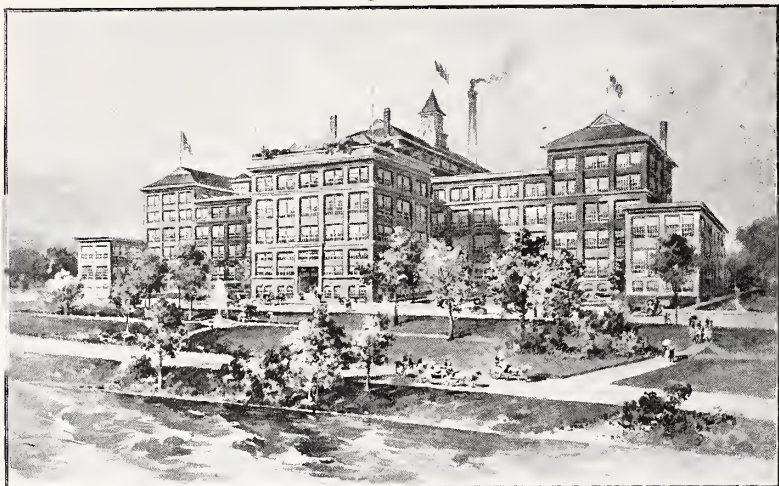
HENRY D. PERKY.

the residents, and there was much amazement expressed that the finest residence section of the city was to feel the advance of the foot of industry. On the banks of the beautiful river the finest factory building in the world was erected. Within its walls an experiment in sociology is going on that is viewed with interest by hundreds of our citizens, especially those who are located within a radius of a few miles of the plant of the Natural Food Company.

In a number of the factories of the country an exemplification of the Golden Rule, and specific arrangements for the well-being of their working people have been instituted, and with results, say the proprietors, of direct benefit to the business, because of the increased interest and energy of the

workers. This is notably the case with the Natural Food Company of Niagara Falls. Its conservatory is 463x66 feet in size, with 844 windows, and in a factory structure of great natural beauty. It is devoted entirely to the production of shredded wheat biscuit. The arrangements for turning out the product are of the most complete description, but it is to describe the study in sociology that is progressing that this sketch is primarily written.

All the improvements that have been projected have not yet been installed, because there has not been time to perfect all the details. Ground was broken for the building



NATURAL FOOD COMPANY'S CONSERVATORY.

December 24, 1900, and the company began operations in September, 1901—less than a year.

The great dining hall on the fifth floor is being made ready and will be furnished in contrast to the light effects of the woodwork of the building. Here all the employees will be the guests of the company at the daily midday meal.

The cooking will be done by electricity in one of the largest electrical kitchens in the world. The dining room overlooks the upper Niagara rapids and will be an ideal apartment for the purpose designed.

On each floor there are two elaborate toilet rooms, one at each end. They are fitted in mosaic marble, with nickel plated trimmings, and are furnished with shower and needle baths, individual lavatories and other conveniences, including hot and cold water. In the women's rooms, in place of the shower and needle baths, there are bath tubs and shoulder showers. The company grant an hour each week, during working hours, to every employee in which to bathe, most of them dividing this period and enjoying themselves thus twice each week for half an hour.

The girls have four rest periods during the day when they can relieve the monotony of their work by a brief time of healthful recreation. Excellent results are obtained from these periods of relaxation, for the workers return to their tasks with renewed interest and energy.

The ground in front of the conservatory is occupied by the children's playground. This space has facilities for a variety of amusements for the children of the city. There is a baseball field, running track, croquet ground, see-saw, sand pile, swing, etc. The company is a strong advocate of public playgrounds and this juvenile paradise is open to all the children of the city, whether their parents are connected with the factory or not.

There is a fine lecture hall in the building where lectures and entertainments are given and where conventions may be held. This hall may be used free of charge by any organization that desires to meet in Niagara Falls.

From the grand foyer and reception room on the first floor guides leave every hour to show visitors through the building. This building is a favorite point of attraction for people from all over the country and for visitors to the Falls from all sections of the world. In this foyer are conveniences of every kind for visitors, reading and writing rooms, stationery, etc. The company issue souvenir postal cards that may be used by the visitors. This fall the company will establish a branch of the Tabard Inn at the factory for the free use of the employees, all who desire being made life members of that institution.

There is also a fine roof garden that has been fitted up for the benefit of the employees and public.

The President of the institution is Henry D. Perky, who for years has made a study of cereal foods and who is President of the Oread Institute, of Worcester, Massachusetts, where some fifty young women are graduated every year. This is an institution in which domestic science is taught in all its branches. The school was founded by Eli Thayer for the higher education of women. It was abandoned in the stirring times of the war. Some years ago it was reorganized by Mr. Perky, who secured the buildings and put the institute on a solid basis. The instruction given is entirely free.

Outside of the development of the electric power of Niagara, there is no industry in the city possessing more unique and significant features in line with industrial betterment than that of the Natural Food Company.

PROSPERITY OF PRETTY LA SALLE.

The settlement now known as La Salle was first known as Cayuga Creek, but later, in recognition of the fact that it was here Cavalier de La Salle, in the spring of 1679, built the Griffon, the first vessel to sail the upper lakes, the name La Salle was selected for the place. One of the first settlers was a man known as "Big Smith," who resided there very early in the last century, probably about 1806. The home

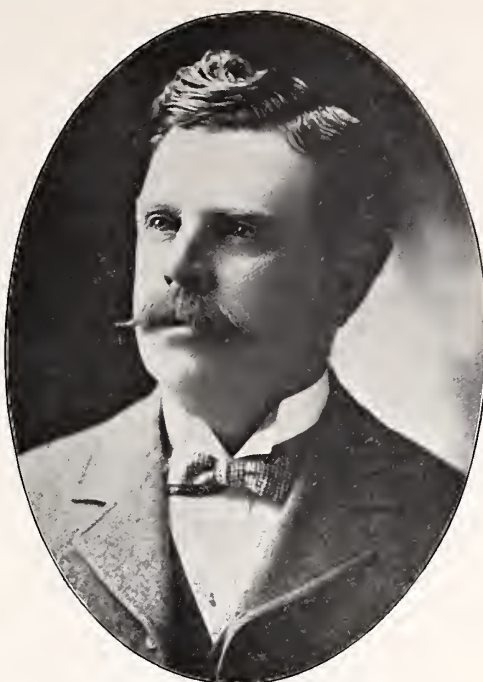


CHILDREN'S PLAY GROUND—NATURAL FOOD COMPANY.

of Samuel Tompkins was a favorite place for travelers in the early days, and the Tompkins family and the Dietrick family have long been connected with the place, as have also the Angevines, the Lymburners, the Smiths, Schmecks and Munsons. In 1852 the postoffice was established, the first Postmaster being Henry Clark, son of Henry W. Clark. Up to the latter part of 1897 La Salle had no village organization, but on December 14, 1897, it was incorporated, feeling the impulse of the new development at Niagara Falls. The first village officers were: Frank E. Wilson, President;



JOHN O. JEFFERY, NORTH TONAWANDA.



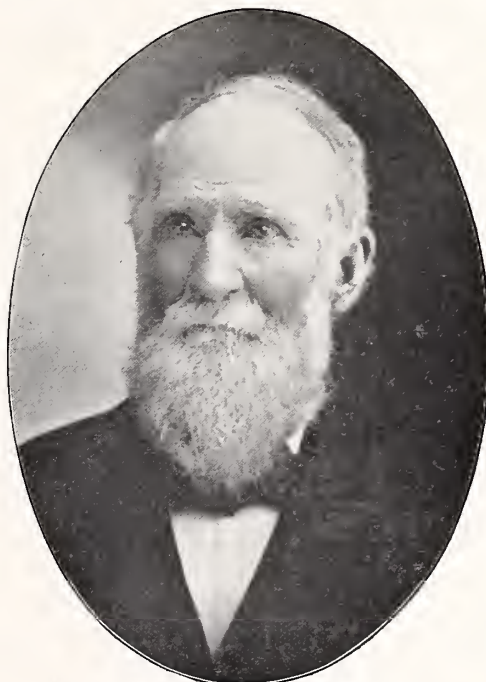
A. C. TUXBURY, NORTH TONAWANDA.



F. A. MOLOY, NORTH TONAWANDA.



STEPHEN SULT, LOCKPORT.



H. A. BARNUM, LEWISTON.



WM. J. JACKMAN, LOCKPORT.



FRANK S. COATES, LOCKPORT.



JAMES A. M'COLLUM, NEWFANE.

John C. Mason, Joseph H. Jones, Trustees; W. F. Smut, Clerk; August Muelentin, Collector; J. Angevine, Treasurer.

The present officers are: Fred Brooks, President; H. S. Tompkins and John A. Reynolds, Trustees; J. H. Schmeck, Clerk; H. C. Kinsley, Treasurer; Alex. Goetzman, Collector; L. J. Luick, Street Commissioner; Board of Health, John J. Hopkins, Chairman; J. H. Schmeck, Clerk; Philip Goetzman, Health Officer; Dr. L. J. Hixon, Health Physician.

On May 24, 1902, a boulder monument to the memory of La Salle was unveiled and dedicated on the Angevine farm, the site of the building of the Griffon.

City of North Tonawanda.

GEORGE W. MILLENER.



THE history of the Tonawandas are so far interwoven that it will be necessary to consider Tonawanda, Erie County, and North Tonawanda, Niagara County, as one. Legend says they might actually have been one had it not been for a certain load of gravel. But that is not history—that is comedy, and another story.

The mounds of Tonawanda Island, now a part of the City of North Tonawanda, and the many Indian antiquities, and burial places discovered in this vicinity, show plainly that here must have been a center of population, probably, before America was discovered.

The aborigines were shrewd in choosing pleasant and practical locations for their villages; the matter of transportation seems to have been well considered by them.

Tradition points to the camps of the French trappers and fur buyers about 1645, as the first indications of a white settlement at the junction of Tonawanda Creek with Niagara River, from the proximity of the high lands, on the north side of the creek, to the water. It is natural to presume that the site of those camps was about what is now the corner of Main and Tremont streets.

From about 1620 to date, one of the main routes for travelers from east to west has been along the banks of Niagara River through North Tonawanda. First we find a canoe was used to cross Tonawanda Creek, then a flat boat, next a float bridge. All of these were supported by toll. Now we have bridges in plenty, free to all.

The first official mention we have of the Tonawandas as a center of community interests, is the appointment of Palmer Cleveland as Postmaster, November 19, 1825.

April 4, 1837, the Town of Tonawanda was organized, with Grand Island as a part.

One of the first acts of the Town Board was to vote a bounty of three dollars for every wildcat destroyed in the town. The temperance question was agitated in 1846. In that year a special election was held in the town on the question of license or no license. Total votes cast 178, of which ninety-eight were for license, eighty for no license. Judging from the above result we are led to question the enormous gains claimed by the temperance advocates of today.

In 1824 the site of the City of North Tonawanda was occupied by the Village of Niagara. Even in those times this was considered a promising locality, as may be seen from a perusal of the prospectus of the village's proprietors.

The first town meeting of the Town of Wheatfield was held on June 6, 1836.

In 1836 a bank was opened. In 1843 the settlement of Martinsville, now a portion of North Tonawanda, was es-

tablished. The settlers of the hamlet were largely Prussian, of strong religious sentiments; and its name shows their peculiar veneration for the memory of Martin Luther. In 1843 Tonawanda Island became the headquarters of the East Boston Company, the owners of Grand Island, which was purchased for its oak timber. This company built and operated a large sawmill on Grand Island, opposite the mouth of Tonawanda Creek. Daniel Webster was a member of this company, and the old settlers say he spent much time at the mansion on Tonawanda Island.

The Village of Tonawanda, made up of territory in Erie and Niagara Counties, was organized December 29, 1853. At the first election 114 votes were cast. Two residents of Erie County and two residents of Niagara County were elected Trustees.

Affairs seemed to progress smoothly and peace reigned supreme until the year 1857, when the Niagara County territory withdrew from the corporation.

June 22, 1865, the electors of the Village of North Tonawanda held their first election, sixty-five votes being cast, electing four trustees and inaugurating our first really local government.

In the year 1897 the City of North Tonawanda was chartered. The growth of our town, the varied interests and the necessity of a local government, with greater powers than were possible under a village charter, induced our people to enter cityhood. The result has been satisfactory to all.

The encroachments of the British, leading to the War of 1812, caused the erection at the mouth of Tonawanda Creek of a block house. This was garrisoned by regular United States troops, and clearly demonstrated that this was considered a strategic point. In 1812 this garrison, with the aid of the immediate settlers, by a display of force and strategy, prevented an invasion of British and Indians from Canada, via Grand Island. Most of our settlers volunteered early in this war, and served until its close. The women and children were left at home to shift for themselves and to care for the few head of live stock and the small personal belongings, which made up the wealth of the frontiersmen. Their existence was one of much hardship during this period. Rumors of invasion were frequent, and at times they were forced to leave their homes and seek safety in the interior. The block house and most of the houses in the vicinity of Tonawanda Creek were destroyed by the British in 1813.

In the "forties" there were two militia organizations here, composed of our citizens; a rifle and an artillery company, duly armed and equipped, constituting a part of the Eighth Brigade, New York State National Guard.

The Civil War proved that the descendants of the frontier settlers were imbued with patriotism. The army records of that period show the names of many citizens of the Tonawandas as officers and privates. Our two local Grand Army posts are justly proud of the records of the brave men who early answered the call for volunteers, and who, like their forebears from this vicinity in the War of 1812, stayed until the end.

The Spanish-American War again showed the spirit of our people. At the first call for troops our local company of militia, the Twenty-fifth Separate Company, National Guard, volunteered and left at once for camp, ready and anxious for a call to active service. After an absence of nearly a year they returned and some of the members entered the regular service. Our locality is now represented

in all branches of the military service, and several of our young men and boys are serving in the navy.

Under present military conditions, our army to be reorganized, available points to be chosen as permanent camps for large bodies of troops, Tonawanda Island, located as it is, the facility with which it can be isolated from the surrounding country, thereby increasing its efficiency in matters of discipline, with the prestige of being in the immediate vicinity of one of the principal strategic points of the War of 1812, seems the proper place. Who would be surprised if it were chosen by our Army Board as the site of the proposed new military post for the Niagara frontier, thereby depriving commerce of one of the finest locations for business of magnitude in Western New York.

COMMENCEMENT OF COMMERCIAL PROSPERITY.

The Tonawandas experienced their first commercial boom in the "forties." The Cleveland Company built an elevator near what is now the Spillway, laying out and naming many streets and adding much to the population. This was followed by the building of a distillery near what is now the foot of Thompson street. Both of these properties were destroyed by fire soon after commencing operations. A distillery was afterwards fitted up near the junction of Manhattan and Sweeney streets. This was operated a short time, then dismantled, and afterwards turned into a shingle mill. The latter was run many years, and had a daily capacity of about 500,000 of shingles, one of the largest, if not the largest, shingle mill ever operated.

GREAT LUMBER CENTER.

The Tonawandas, as a lumber center, began their existence in the "sixties," first as a distributing point for logs and long timber, and as a lumber and shingle manufacturing town. Large quantities of logs were towed from Canada and Michigan to our port, and several regular lines of vessels carried square oak timber from the Ohio and Michigan forests to supply our local mills and for transportation by canal to New York and other Eastern points.

Two large ship yards were engaged in building vessels for the growing lake commerce; ten large sawmills and shingle mills were manufacturing yearly about 100,000,000 feet of logs and timber into masts, ship timber, bridge timber, building timber, and shingles, and the Tonawandas made a reputation fast.

SECOND LARGEST LUMBER MARKET.

The first cargo of sawed lumber was received on our docks in 1867. From that time our receipts increased, until in the year 1890 there was received and handled over our docks the enormous amount of 718,650,900 feet of lumber, and in addition shingles, lath, ties and fence posts in proportionately large quantities, making the Tonawandas, in fact, the second largest lumber market in the world. This lumber is shipped to the Eastern and Southern States, to South America, Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia, for we still hold the record in this line of business. Our harbor and dock facilities are such as to provide for handling these immense quantities of lumber and still leave plenty of room for other material of various kinds.

IRON INDUSTRIES.

It is apparent that iron and steel are to be the building materials of this century, and still the Tonawandas are in line. The plant of the Tonawanda Iron & Steel Company, erected in 1873, and since added to and improved, is now capable of producing 500 tons of iron daily from the crude

ore. The plant of the Buffalo Steel Company engaged in rolling flat steel, angle steel, light rails, agricultural bars, etc.; capacity 150 tons daily; the Buffalo Nut & Bolt Works, the largest plant of its kind in existence; the Buffalo Steam Pump Company, the Niagara Radiator Works, and numerous other iron and steel working plants are producing material in such quantities as will soon place us in position as one of the centers of the iron and steel industry of the age.

And now work has commenced on a large paper mill, covering two acres of ground, for the manufacture of cardboard.

AMUSEMENTS FOR THE WORLD.

Our city also caters to the lighter side of life. We do our part in furnishing the lowly and the children of the nations with harmless amusements. Three large factories within our borders are engaged in the manufacture of steam riding galleries, or merry-go-rounds. One large factory builds narrow-gauge railroads, steam locomotives and cars; and that all the world may dance when they will, we have a large factory engaged in the manufacture of orchestrions, barrel organs, and street pianos. You may say we have much to answer for on account of doing these things, but when one of our citizens traveling in South America, Asia or Africa, hears the hubbub and music incident to the proper management of a riding gallery, and after much effort pierces the surrounding crowd, he usually feels very much elated when he reads, as he generally does, the large yellow letters setting forth that this machine and its organ was constructed in North Tonawanda, State of New York, United States of America, and is satisfied that the semi-civilized are as safe for the time as conscientious workmanship and skilled engineering can make them.

SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

We are eminently a social people, as may be seen from a partial enumeration of the societies supported and encouraged by our citizens. In addition to our church societies, military and fire companies, we have from one to four lodges of the following orders: Masonic, Odd Fellows, Maccabees, Select Knights, Foresters, United Workmen, Royal Arcanum, Knights of Pythias, Knights of Columbus, Knights and Ladies of Honor, Order of Hibernians, Harugari, and others for charitable, social and benevolent purposes, offering a wide choice to that peculiar product of our American civilization, the joiner. Then our ladies have their societies for the study of history, literature and art. Were we to enumerate even one-half our social advantages the limits set for this article would be much exceeded.

It is a matter of regret that the limits of this sketch prevents the mention of the names of the many prominent citizens, past and present, whose services to our people in the ministry, in medicines, in the law, in the schools, in business, in war and in politics entitles to the consideration and respect of all. At some later time space may be found to partially give their lives and works the high praise which is their just due.

The growth of our city has been phenomenal, the temperament of our people is exceptional. But two or three murders have occurred here in the memory of man, and all were perpetrated by transients. Robberies are almost unknown, and notwithstanding we manufacture much beer, drunkenness of the quarrelsome kind is exceptional.

Our people are thrifty; we have a local Savings & Loan Association, with a capital of \$228,000. This furnishes ready help to the workers and aids much in inducing the wage-

earner to own his own home, to save his earnings and to take an interest in the management of local affairs.

FUTURE PROSPECTS.

Though the youngest city of the County of Niagara, North Tonawanda promises to be in the near future the banner city, and the center of population and business, on the Niagara Frontier. Her location, nearly midway between Buffalo and Niagara Falls, her close interests with Tonawanda, for Tonawanda and North Tonawanda are divided by but about 200 feet of smooth water and a county line, the water is well bridged; (the county line might be were it not for the strife of local politics); they must be considered as one, with a united population of 18,300; with two commodious high schools, well supplied with up-to-date instructors and apparatus; with a well-equipped manual training school; with seven district schools, modern in every particular, for our educational facilities are not surpassed by any city in the State; with four successful and well-managed banks; with twenty-six churches; with a commodious and

well-equipped Young Men's Christian Association building, the finest in the county, backed by a strong society and the people generally; with free delivery of mail; with one of the best volunteer fire departments in the State, supplemented by modern fire alarm systems; with water and sewer service, not to be excelled; with unsurpassed shipping facilities, six lines of steam railroads, the Erie Canal, Niagara River, and Lake Erie; with her magnificent harbor at the foot of the navigable waters of the Great Lakes, and in close proximity to the great power plant.

With her enterprising and genial people, what better place can be found for business, what more salubrious place for homes away from the mists and roar of Niagara Falls; just far enough from the City of Buffalo, with its perfume of drying grains and stagnant waters; located on the Frontier of Western New York, on the banks of Niagara River, at the center of the ideal portion of the most fruitful and healthful section of the Empire State, of the most enlightened Republic known to history?



MAP OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRACTION COMPANY.



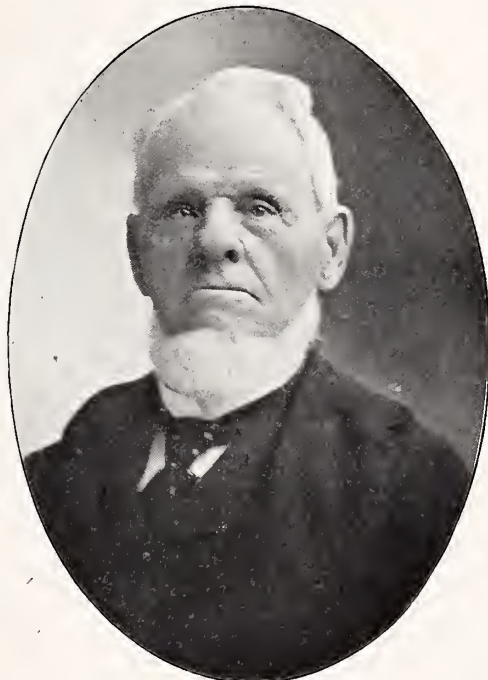
HON. JOHN VAN HORN, Lockport.



HON. FRANKLIN SPALDING, Niagara Falls.



COL. GEORGE L. MOOTE, Porter.



JOHN G. FREEMAN, Lockport.



HON. JOHN HODGE, Lockport.



B. F. FELTON, North Tonawanda.



HON. THOMAS V. WELCH, Niagara Falls.

PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE NIAGARA COUNTY PIONEER ASSOCIATION.

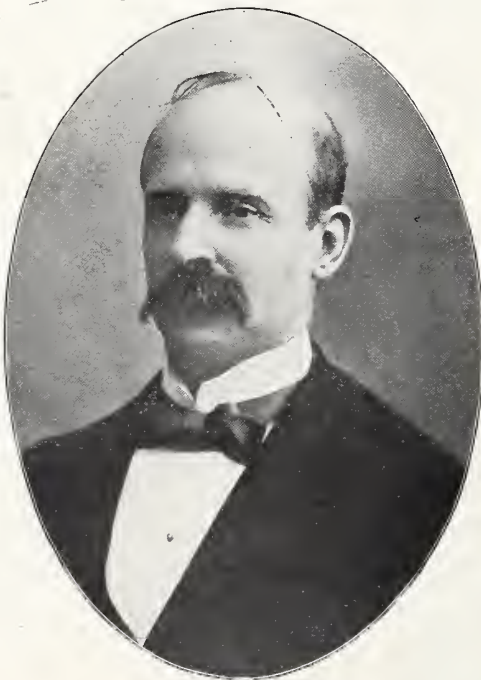
Press of Niagara County.

JOURNALISM took root at an early day in Niagara County, as an inspection of the record of the various newspapers given hereinafter will show. The history of each is prepared from memoranda furnished by the present publishers. For over eighty years the news of the day has been chronicled, either weekly or daily, with a gradual improvement in frequency of issue, in typographical appearance and in the presentation of news with promptness and accuracy. We have aimed to make these sketches strictly historical, and to exclude from them all the claims, and counter claims, that arise regarding circulation and editorial and typographical excellence, that editors are apt to indulge in, but in respect of which the public are really the best judges. So here the newspaper men are gathered together in peaceful harmony, for once at least, good fellows all of them, whom The Journal desires to entertain in thorough equality and with simple and exact justice to all within the covers of this hospitable book.

LOCKPORT UNION-SUN.

The Lockport Union-Sun had its birth in Lewiston in 1821. At that time there was considerable rivalry between Lockport and Lewiston as to which should be the county seat. Lewiston had a shade the better of the argument in the fact that it had the only paper in the county, the Niagara Democrat, owned and edited by Bartemus Ferguson.

Lockport, with its characteristic energy and public en-



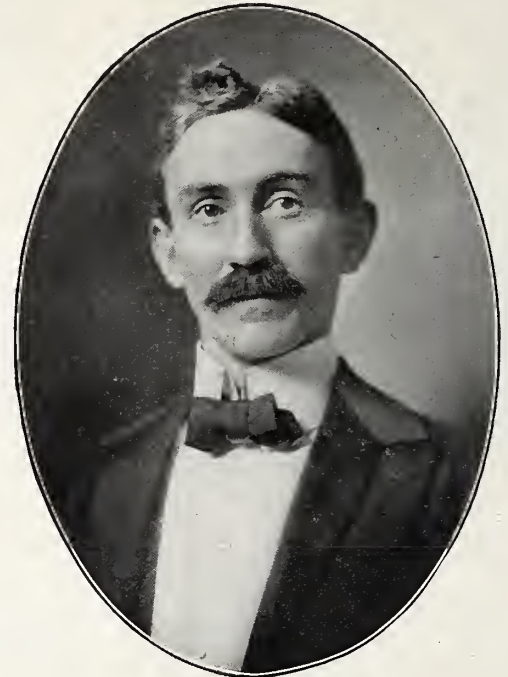
FRED W. CORSON.

terprise, saw the advantage of having its cause thus advocated, and a committee was appointed to go to Lewiston, buy the printing establishment, engage the printer, and bring the whole outfit to Lockport.

So well did this committee perform its task that the first intimation most of Lewiston citizens had of the change was when they received copies of the paper, setting forth in blazing headlines, the advantages of Lockport as a county

seat. Orsamus Turner, the early historian of this region, published the paper for a number of years.

The many changes in name and ownership from 1821 down to the present day are part of the history of the county, and the fact that the Union-Sun, daily, and the Niagara Democrat and Niagara Sun, semi-weekly, are the successors and present day representatives of the first paper established in Niagara County is an undisputed fact.



MATTHEW H. HOOVER.

The names of Ransom Skeels, deceased, and Dr. E. W. Gantt, a resident of this city, were long associated with the Niagara Democrat and Daily Union as its editors, and men whose ability, honesty of purpose and energy did much toward making it the prominent factor in the business, political and social life of Niagara County.

The present editorial staff consists of Matthew H. Hoover, Managing Editor; Mrs. F. W. Corson, Associate Editor, Charles F. Foley, City Editor and Advertising Manager. The Union-Sun, Niagara Democrat and Niagara Sun, as they are today, speak in highest terms of their ability.

Under the management and proprietorship of Fred W. Corson the Union-Sun and Niagara Democrat and Niagara Sun have achieved a well deserved success. The management has recently purchased buildings and a site on East Avenue with a frontage of sixty feet, running 160 feet back to Pearl Street and containing some 14,000 feet of floor space. Its job work department has grown until its product necessitates six large presses and a large force of men and women.

LOCKPORT DAILY REVIEW.

The Lockport Daily Review was first issued from the office Nos. 26-28 Market Street, on March 27, 1895. The owners were six printers, Messrs. F. H. Fogel, J. W. Jenss, Eugene Kearns, R. C. Wilson, John M. Smith and T. T. Feeley, who invested in the plant. For the first year, the

paper was run on the cooperative plan. At the beginning of the second year a stock company was formed and two more printers were added to the list, namely John Tierney and John W. Berry, and since that time the paper has been run under the corporation laws of the State of New York. In



T. T. FEELEY.

1896 the Semi-Weekly Review was first issued. A job plant has been added and today The Review has a complete plant.

WOMAN'S TEMPERANCE WORK.

Woman's Temperance Work, published in Lockport, New York, is the official organ of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of the State of New York.

After this society had been organized about ten years a State paper was found to be a necessity, and in 1884 it became a fact. It closed its first year with a subscription list of 1,300. It was then called "Our Work." This name was afterward changed to "Woman's Christian Temperance Work," but as this proved to be rather too much of a title, it was finally called by the name it bears today, "Woman's Temperance Work."

During the early years of its existence, it was published in New York City, the office of the editor and publisher being headquarters for the W. C. T. U. of the State. In 1897, at the State convention of the W. C. T. U., Mrs. Frances W. Graham, of Lockport, was made editor and publisher and consequently the office and headquarters were changed to Lockport.

The paper is an eight page monthly, devoted principally to the progress of the temperance work in this State. It contains each month a letter from the State President and communications from the branch secretaries, besides giving plans for carrying on the work of the various departments. There is a department of "Field News" which gives the general outlook, and the editorials touch on the leading features of the temperance reform. Such a paper does much toward moulding temperance sentiment.

With the December issue of this year, it will enter upon its twentieth year, which proves that it was born to live. Under Mrs. Graham's management the paper has shown steady improvement. The subscription list, which had increased each year from the beginning, has doubled during the past five years, and the number now reaches 6,000, while the financial part of the publication is on a firmer basis than ever before.

Mrs. Graham's office is in her home, at 355 Market Street, and is a busy place, for in addition to her work as editor and publisher, Mrs. Graham is State Corresponding Secretary, and with 1,000 local organizations in the State and a membership of nearly 25,000, there is plenty of work



MRS. FRANCES W. GRAHAM.

for the Corresponding Secretary to do. She is ably assisted by Miss Amy A. Walker, who has been associated with her since 1898 as stenographer, bookkeeper and general assistant. Miss Walker is a graduate of the Commercial Department of the Lockport High School, and is well fitted for this position.

Mrs. Graham is also one of Lockport's favorite singers, and was for a number of years the solo soprano of the First Congregational Church. She is also the Musical Director for the National W. C. T. U. and her voice has been heard in the temperance reform in almost every State in the Union. Her home has always been in Lockport, and here as elsewhere, her influence has ever been given to every good cause.

THE LOCKPORT JOURNAL.

What is now The Lockport Journal was really founded on May 1, 1827, when M. Cadwallader began to publish The Niagara Courier. After a short time the paper was bought by George Reese, who in a short time sold out to the late Hon. T. T. Flagler. Under his ownership and editorial direction the paper became a success. In 1843 the paper was bought by Crandall & Brigham and Mr. Brigham at once transferred his interest to David S. Crandall, who continued the publication of the paper. Up to this time the paper had been issued as a weekly and it was so continued until 1847, when it was issued as a daily, the first one to be issued regularly in the Village of Lockport. It, and its successors, has been continuously issued, as a daily, ever since that time. In 1851 the Courier was bought by C. L. Skeels and John Williams.

Moved by the apparent success of The Courier, Robert H. Stevens began in 1846, the publication of a weekly paper, The Niagara Cataract, but he soon disposed of it to Humphrey & Fox who were in turn succeeded by Charles J. Fox. Fox continued to publish the paper until 1851, when the late Moses Richardson, who had been editorially associated with The Courier, bought it with the intention of publishing it as



PUBLISHERS OF THE LOCKPORT JOURNAL, 1851-1902.

WILLARD A. COBB.

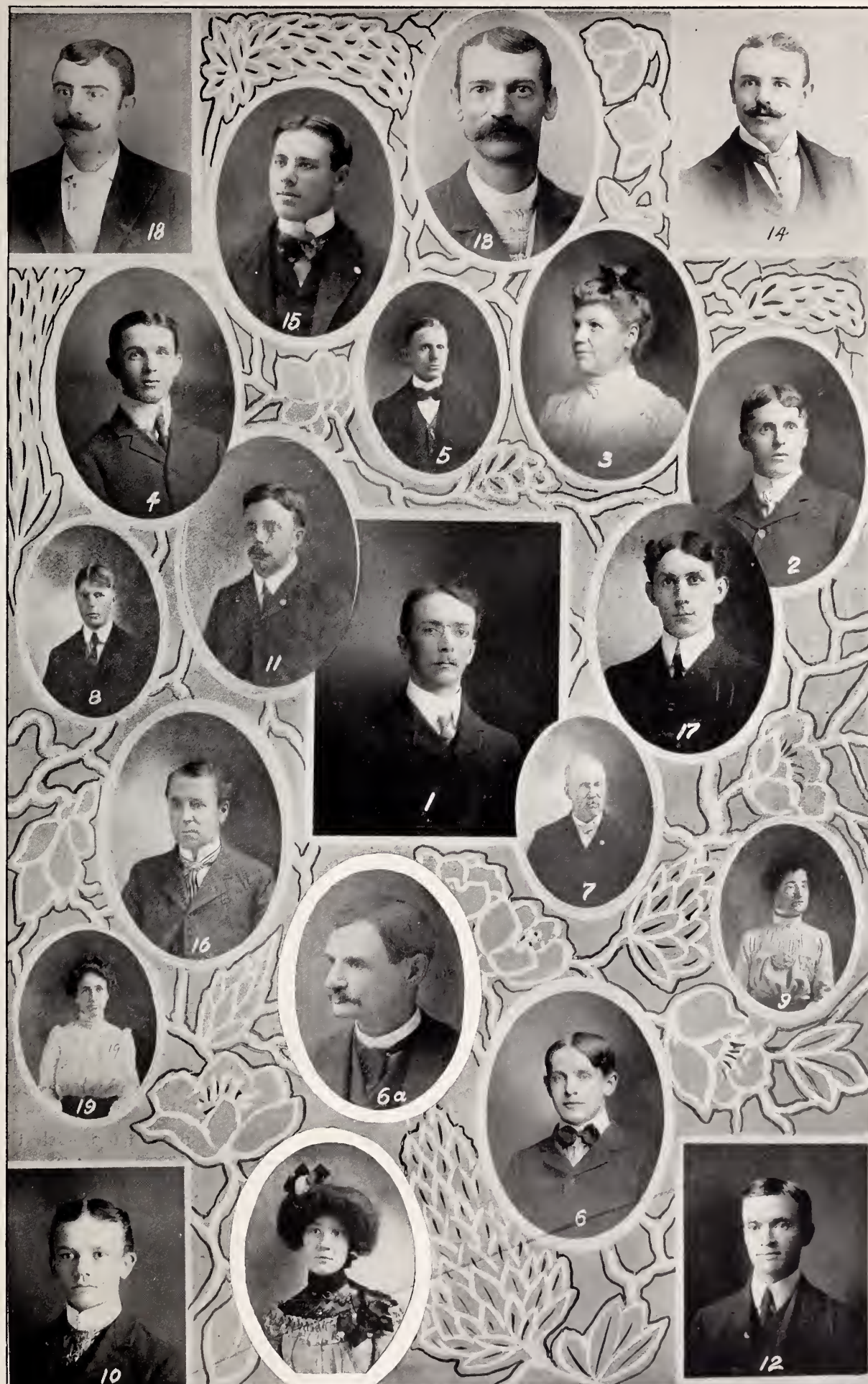
EUGENE B. FLETCHER.

MOSES C. RICHARDSON.

GEORGE A. TALBOTT.

JOSEPH A. WARD.

FREDERICK F. PURDY.



EMPLOYEES OF THE LOCKPORT JOURNAL.

1—ELMER E. POOLE 2—LEE E. GOODING 3—MRS. DORA E. MILLARD 4—JESSE L. GREENMAN 5—GEORGE S. GOODING
 6—GROVER MCGOWAN 6a—WILLIAM H. STAATS 7—A. STEWART GOODING 8—WILLIAM B. GOODING 9—MISS EMMA MCCARTHY
 10—ELLSWORTH P. OSTRANDER 11—GEORGE M. CLAIR 12—MICHAEL I. MORAN 13—HENRY M. SEYMOUR 14—BURT J. GREEN
 15—E. GEORGE LINDSTROM 16—O. M. VAN BUREN 17—HARRY F. STARKWEATHER 18—CASSIMER DENEAU 19—MISS MARGARET CUSHEN
 20—MISS GRACE GLASSFORD.

a Free Soil paper. He added materially to the equipment and began to publish a paper known as The Lockport Daily Journal. In the following year he interested Cornelius Underwood, a practical printer, in the enterprise, but Underwood soon became discouraged and retired. Richardson held on and had so far succeeded in his efforts to put the paper on a paying basis that in 1853 he brought the first power press to the village.

Then came a disaster which would have marked the defeat of many men. It was the fire of November, 1854, the disaster which is yet known among the older inhabitants of the city as the "Great Fire." Richardson's plant was destroyed. He was not to be so quickly defeated, however, and he at once obtained new material and went on printing his paper. He eventually succeeded in putting The Journal upon such a firm business and editorial foundation that the owner of the Courier, John G. Freeman, entered into partnership with him and the papers, which had become practically of the same political complexion, were united as The Courier and Journal. This was now a daily and in addition the publishers issued a weekly styled The Niagara Intelligencer. This soon became the Niagara Journal.

In 1861 Mr. Freeman sold out his interest to A. Holly and he in turn soon disposed of it to James W. Barker, when the paper became known as The Lockport Journal. Again disaster overtook the plant, for on May 3, 1863, the building in which the paper was published, was struck by lightning and was burned, the loss to the publishers being severe.

After this incident the lot where the present Journal Building stands was bought and preparations were begun for building. Barker sold out his interest in 1864, it being purchased by Mr. Richardson, who continued to publish the paper while he was preparing for the construction of the building in which The Journal is today published. This building was finished in 1869. In the year following Joseph A. Ward bought a quarter interest and became the business manager. In 1872 the late Hon. Willard A. Cobb, who had been proprietor and editor of The Dunkirk Journal, sold out his plant and business and came to Lockport and bought a quarter interest in The Lockport Journal and became Associate Editor. Mr. Richardson retained a half interest in the firm until 1880, when he sold out to Ward & Cobb, who continued to publish the paper until the death of the latter in May, 1900. Mr. Ward continued the publication of The Journal until May 11, when W. M. Ward purchased the interest formerly owned by Mr. Cobb, and the firm became Ward & Son.

On July 29, 1901, The Journal passed into the hands of Fletcher & Purdy, Eugene B. Fletcher, of Chicago, and Frederick F. Purdy, of New York. On August 1, of the present year, George A. Talbott, of Urbana, Ohio, became associated with Messrs. Fletcher & Purdy, under the firm name of Fletcher, Purdy & Talbott.

NIAGARA FALLS CATARACT-JOURNAL AND NIAGARA FALLS JOURNAL.

The Daily Cataract-Journal has been published as such since April 13, 1900. The Daily Cataract was established April 27, 1892, and is the oldest daily paper at Niagara Falls. The founder was O. W. Cutler and later his brother-in-law, F. P. Tallant, was interested with him in the business. Still later J. H. T. Pearson became half owner and editor, The Cataract Publishing Company having been organized and continued as such until April 13, 1900.

There is also published from the same office the Ni-

agara Falls Journal, a weekly newspaper, which has had a long and important career in the City of Niagara Falls and the old Village of Suspension Bridge.

In October, 1855, George H. Hackstaff established in that village what is now the Niagara Falls Journal, but what was then called the Niagara City Herald. The next year he sold the paper to his brother, N. F. Hackstaff, who conducted it for a time and then sold it to Charles B. Gaskill,



EDWARD T. WILLIAMS.

GEORGE H. COURTER.

who started the first flour mill in Niagara Falls, and afterwards became one of the most influential business men of the town.

A. G. Liscom became the owner of the paper in 1870 and changed its name to The Suspension Bridge Journal.

In 1873 John Ransom acquired the property and conducted the paper until November, 1879, when it was purchased by Hon. Solon S. Pomroy. Mr. Pomroy in March, 1892, when the two villages were incorporated into the City of Niagara Falls, changed the name to The Niagara Falls Journal. He continued to publish the paper until June 1, 1897, a period of seventeen years, when he sold the paper to Edward T. Williams, who became the editor and proprietor. Mr. Williams has been the editor of the paper ever since, but on June 15, 1899, George H. Courter, formerly Business Manager of The Buffalo Courier, became associated with him and The Journal Publishing Company was incorporated with Mr. Williams as President and Mr. Courter as Secretary, Treasurer and Business Manager. July 12, 1899, The Daily Journal was established by these gentlemen and published in connection with the Weekly Journal. On April 13, 1900, The Daily Cataract was purchased by the owners of The Journal and consolidated with it and since the daily paper has been called The Cataract-Journal, while the name of the weekly is the same as before. The name of the corporation was changed to The Cataract Journal Company with the same officers as above.

NIAGARA FALLS GAZETTE.

The Niagara Falls Gazette was first issued May 17, 1854, by B. F. Sleeper and William Pool. It was published as a daily during the summers of 1859 and 1860.

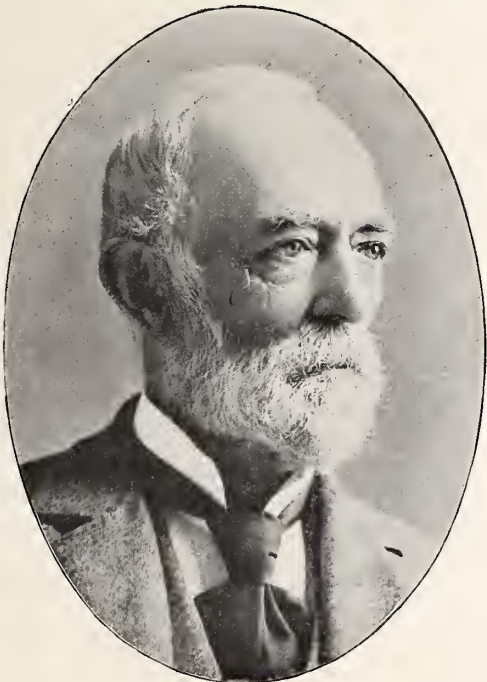
Under the editorship of William Pool it became a widely-known and influential paper. At the end of 1879 Mr. Pool sold the Gazette to Peter A. Porter. In 1895 The Gazette Publishing Company was formed to acquire it and run it as a daily.

The Gazette is Republican in its principles but maintains an independence that adds greatly to its influence. It occupies a three story building at No. 351 Third Street, Niagara Falls, the building having been enlarged to meet its growth.

The present editor of the Gazette is Eugene R. White, its Business Manager being Alanson C. Deuel.

THE NIAGARA COURIER.

After publishing The Niagara Falls Gazette from May 17, 1854, to the end of December, 1879, William Pool, its veteran editor, sold out the paper to Peter A. Porter. In 1884, Mr. Pool founded The Niagara Courier, which has



WILLIAM POOL.

since been issued weekly, with his son, R. M. Pool, as local editor.

Mr. Pool was born at Dickersonville, Niagara County, of pioneer parents, on May 15, 1825. He was the first Postmaster there previous to moving to Lockport in 1852, where he was employed in the business and editorial departments of The Niagara Courier there under the late Captain G. L. Skeels.

He removed to Niagara Falls to be one of the founders of The Niagara Falls Gazette in 1854. He became sole proprietor in 1864 and sold out to Peter A. Porter at the end of 1879.

Mr. Pool was member of Assembly in 1867 and Postmaster at Niagara Falls from 1867 for eight years thereafter. He was a delegate from his Senatorial District to the State Constitutional Convention in 1894.

IN THE MIST.

W. E. Tuttle, publisher of "In The Mist" was a former City Editor of The Lockport Journal, Managing Editor of Niagara Falls Cataract and Associate Editor of the Niagara Falls Gazette; now publisher and proprietor of the resort

paper "In The Mist," at Niagara Falls, promoter of steamboat companies and trolley lines, holding responsible posi-



WILLIAM E. TUTTLE.

tions with them; represents Associated Press and General Manager of the Press News Association.

THE TONAWANDA NEWS.

The Tonawanda Commercial was the first newspaper published in the Tonawandas. It was established in 1849, was issued weekly and lived but a short time.

In 1852 The Niagara River Pilot, a seven column weekly, was founded by Silas S. Packard and Henry Foxlonger, with the former as editor and the latter as printer. The money for starting the paper was furnished principally by the Cleveland Commercial Company, who constructed a large grain elevator here about that time. Foxlonger withdrew in about six months and Mr. Packard continued the publication of the paper for a short time when he associated with him. S. O. Hayward, who soon became sole proprietor of The Pilot and continued its publication until 1861. He



COMUS B. PENNEY.

then disposed of his interest to T. W. Maxon, who continued the publication for about three months. Mr. Hay-

ward resumed the management of the Pilot, changing the name to The Niagara Frontier, which name was in turn changed to The Lake Shore Enterprise. After a year or two of publication under this title the paper was continued under the name of The Tonawanda Enterprise and existed up until a few years ago.

J. Densmore started The Tonawanda Herald in the Town of Wheatfield, Niagara County, in 1875. He was burned out at the end of one year. Thomas M. Chapman took hold of what was left of The Herald plant and began its publication anew, associating with him the late George M. Warren. After a lapse of about a year Chapman became



HARLAN W. BRUSH.

sole proprietor and continued to publish The Herald as its editor until he disposed of half his interest to Thomas E. Warner. The firm name was Chapman & Warner and continued so until 1896, when Mr. Warner disposed of his interest to Mr. Chapman and began the publication of The Tonawanda Argus, associating with him Frank P. Hulette, of The Arcade Leader. In 1900 Mr. Chapman sold The Herald to the News Publishing Company who continued its publication in conjunction with The Daily News. In 1901 Warner & Hulette suspended publication of The Argus and the plant was bought by The News Publishing Company.

The Daily News was established in 1880 by George S. Hobbie. It was a four-page affair, the pages being seven by eleven inches. As the town grew The Daily News grew, and while it changed hands a number of times from the date of its birth to the present time, it has for a number of years been the leading paper of the Tonawandas. The present proprietors, The News Publishing Company, purchased The Daily News plant from M. Jer. Dillon in 1894 and since then it has pushed steadily forward, having bought up the Daily Argus and the Weekly Herald. The Daily News and The Weekly Herald are published in their own building and are bright, newsy up-to-date publications. Harlan W. Brush, United States Consul at Niagara Falls, Ont., is President of The News Publishing Company. Comus B. Penney is Treasurer and Manager.

THE WILSON STAR.

The Star, a bright, weekly newspaper, was started in Wilson by James Betts in October, 1878, who in November in the same year, sold it to Charles E. Honeywell, the present editor and proprietor.

Mr. Honeywell was born in Toronto, Canada, March 2, 1853, and is a son of John Honeywell. His father was a banker and his grandfather a Colonel in the English army. His maternal great grandfather was John Stedman, the first surveyor in Niagara County, and acquired Goat Island at the Falls from the Indians. Editor Honeywell was educated in his native city and learned the trade of a printer there on the old Toronto Leader. He was a journeyman for several years and came to this country in 1870 and worked on the Cincinnati dailies and on The Buffalo Courier. In 1878 he came to Wilson and purchased The Star, of which he has since been publisher and editor. Mr.



CHARLES E. HONEYWELL.

Honeywell is proud of having one of the best equipped printing offices in Niagara County and has placed his paper among the leaders of Niagara County journals. He is a member of Ontario Lodge No. 376, F. and A. M. and other organizations. March 3, 1879, he married Sarah, daughter of Charles Myers of Wilson.

YOUNGSTOWN NEWS.

The birth of The Youngstown News occurred March



G. OLIVER P. FRICK.

4, 1881, the day that James A. Garfield was inaugurated

President of the United States, and was the origin of Nelson D. Haskell, then a promising young business man of Youngstown, and later junior member of the firm of B. D. Davis & Company, general merchants. Mr. Haskell was afterward elected member of the State Legislature from the Second Niagara District, and today is a practicing physician in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The News first appeared under the name of the Niagara County News, and continued so until the year 1887, when it was changed to its present name. It was first a five column, four page paper, and was published in that form for nearly two years when another column was added.

In 1888 it was again enlarged to six pages, and at this time an extra edition entitled The Niagara News was published for its many readers at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, and along the entire Canadian border. Thus it appeared until January, 1889, when the newspaper plant and job printing outfit passed into the hands of the present proprietor, G. Oliver P. Frick.

Although a young man, less than eighteen years of age, Mr. Frick was a journeyman printer, having worked at the trade since he was twelve years of age, and he took charge of the mechanical part of the office, while his father, Joseph A. Frick, acted as Manager of the paper. Under their direction The News was again enlarged in 1890 to an eight page paper and has continued in this form up to the present time.

In 1894 Joseph A. Frick severed his connection with The News, and the entire management was assumed by G. Oliver P. Frick.

Recently Mr. Frick was appointed United States Immigrant Inspector at the Port of Toronto, Ontario.

THE MIDDLEPORT HERALD.

The Middleport Herald was established in 1883; prior to that date the paper was known as The Mail, and published in turn by Clark, Squires, Kuck, Cooper, Pike and others. In 1895 The Herald was sold by John E. Cooper to John W. Hinchey, who at once set about placing it on a paying basis, and at the same time infusing new life and new ideas.



JOHN W. HINCHEY.

Mr. Hinchey will issue, beginning in August, this year, 1902, The Daily Herald, in connection with the weekly, which will fully chronicle the daily happenings of that lively and prosperous village.



WICKER COTTAGE—OLCOTT BEACH,

Autobiographies.

UNDER the respective towns and cities in which they live will be found appropriate references to the lives and services of many whose portraits adorn this book. A concise chronology of many that it has not been convenient to include in the narrative is presented hereinafter, arranged in alphabetical order, making it convenient for reading and reference.

Ackerson, Charles F.—Born 1837, in Orleans County. Educated at Yates Academy. Taught school for sixteen winters. Married Mary J. Nellist, of Somerset, 1864. Resided in Somerset on a farm until six years ago, since which time he has lived in Hartland. Served several years as Supervisor. Three children: Fred M., lawyer, of Niagara Falls, Assistant District Attorney; George D., farmer, Hartland; Lovina M., Student, State Normal School, Brockport.

Allen, Harvey E.—Born in Monroe County, 1841. Came to Town of Hartland in spring of 1842 with his parents. Has lived in Town of Somerset and Royalton as well as Hartland. Served as Collector of Town of Somerset. Now Highway Commissioner of Town of Hartland.

Allen, Henry Terrill—Born in Town of Cambria, 1826. Moved to Niagara Falls in 1849. Resided there since. He and his two sons, Arthur and Matthew, have done much to build up the city. Samuel Allen, an ancestor, came from England in early part of Seventeenth Century and joined the Dorchester Colony at East Windsor, Vermont. He had many active and influential descendants, including General Ethan Allen. Amasa Allen, grandfather of Henry T., moved with his family to Genesee County in 1810. Horatio, his son, father of the subject of this sketch, at the age of twenty-two, with his young wife, aged eighteen, Hannah Terrill Allen, moved to Town of Cambria in 1822.

Arlington, Robert—Born 1852 in Cambridgeshire, England. Came to America in 1870 and to Lockport in 1873, when he moved to Somerset and lived there until 1900, where he was Constable for seventeen years. A public auctioneer. Deputy Sheriff since January, 1901.

Babcock, Isaac H.—Born Rensselaerville, Albany County, 1830. In 1834 removed with his parents to the Lake Road, Somerset, where they purchased a farm. Remained there until thirty years old. In 1860 moved to Lockport and engaged in fruit farming, and in nursery business. Resided in Town of Lockport, near city line, since that time. Has served as Supervisor two years. Was member of Assembly from First District of Niagara County in 1872 and 1873. His father, Hon. J. W. Babcock, represented the Second Assembly District in the same body just twenty years before. Is President of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Savings Bank of Lockport and President of American District Steam Company.

Bayliss, John R.—Born Town of Lockport, 1844. A veteran of the War of the Rebellion, 1861-65. Served in the Forty-ninth New York Volunteer Infantry. Appointed Court Crier in 1890 and is still serving under the civil service. Visitor for Home for the Friendless.

Behe, Stacy D.—Born January 30, 1874, Town of Lockport. Removed to Royalton in 1879, attended the dis-

trict school and later Lockport Union School; graduated in 1896. Studied law with Burt G. Stockwell, George W. Pound and Chauncey E. Dunkleberger. Admitted to the bar July 19, 1900.

Biggins, J. G.—Born in Town of Cambria. Now resident in Town of Wilson. Son of Jedediah Biggins, who enlisted from Newfane in 1862 in Twenty-third Battery, N. Y. L. A. Mustered out July 24, 1866.

Blackley, Dr. Carl A.—Born in Lockport, 1869. Graduated from Lockport Union School. Studied medicine at the Hahnemann Medical College, Philadelphia, graduated there and took a postgraduate course at the Hahnemann Hospital. Returned to Lockport and established himself in the practice of medicine. Is now City Physician of Lockport.

Bradley, Artemas A.—Born 1857 on old Carlton homestead, Town of Lockport, in possession of family nearly a century. Grandson of David Carlton, pioneer, and son of Alanson and Nancy Carlton Bradley. Graduated from Lockport Union School, 1879. Admitted to practice in State Courts 1883, and in United States Courts in 1899. In 1890 formed a partnership with Hon. John A. Merritt, which continues. Now serving third term on Board of Education; second term as President of Alumni of Lockport Union School; first term as Recording Secretary and member of Executive Committee of State Association of School Boards. A Republican and a frequent public speaker in political campaigns. At present Police Justice. Appointed December, 1901.

Bredell, Frank M.—Born, Lockport, 1869. Common school education. Engaged in shirt factory for several years. Formed partnership with J. C. Harrington in general insurance business. Became Manager for Ontario Baking Company, January 1, 1902. Clerk in Assembly, 1895. Now Supervisor from Fifth Ward, serving second term. Republican.

Brown, Albert F.—Born in Orleans County, 1818. Attended Canandaigua Academy, worked on a farm and entered Farmers' Bank of Orleans County as teller. Afterward taught school in Louisiana. Returning home, he was elected County Superintendent of the Poor. Came to Lockport in 1860. Five years Treasurer of Holly Water Works Company. Conducted a paper and pulp mill, now part of plant of the Fiber Works. Made two trips abroad. Elected Mayor of Lockport on Democratic ticket in 1870. Candidate of Prohibition party for Lieutenant Governor in 1876. Died September 25, 1893, survived by one daughter, Mrs. Jesse Peterson.

Buddenhagen, Henry—Born in Germany, 1828. Came to America, 1856 and to Lockport 1863, where he established a merchant tailoring establishment. Has been in the same location twenty-eight years. Is a member of Red Jacket Lodge, F. and A. M.; Cataract Lodge, I. O. O. F.; John Hodge Lodge, A. O. U. W., and of the German Lutheran Church, corner Locust and South Streets.

Buchanan, William L.—Born in Lockport 1872. Attended public schools there and graduated at Union School. With American Express Company for six years. Alder-

man from 1898 to 1901 inclusive. Clerk in the Senate Chamber at Albany in 1901. Appointed Special Agent of the Treasury Department in 1901.

Butler, Mighells B.—Born in Phelps, Ontario County, 1856. Attended De Veaux College from September, 1868-76, when he entered class of '80 at Harvard, was there a year and afterward an instructor at De Veaux for two years. He then studied medicine in Geneva and New York City, graduated in 1881, practiced in Geneva, went into business at Ithaca, went to Suspension Bridge in 1884 and entered the grocery firm of M. V. Pearson & Company. Been in same business ever since, conducting his own business and now that of Butler Grocery Company, organized in 1898. Was Second Lieutenant of Forty-second Separate Company in 1885, Captain until May, 1898, when he was promoted to Major of Third New York Volunteer Infantry in Spanish-American war and was mustered out December 10, 1898. In same month commissioned Major First Battalion, N. G. S. N. Y., with headquarters at Niagara Falls. Elected Mayor in 1893 and in 1900. Member Board of Education in 1892. Member Board of Public Works four years, aside from his terms of ex-officio membership as Mayor. Is a Mason, an Elk and member of Spanish American War Veterans' Association.

Campbell, William W.—Born in Royalton, 1870. In 1874 went to Connecticut, living there until 1891, when he went to Boston. Came to Lockport, 1894. Studied law and was admitted to the bar. Was Surrogate's Clerk for several years until 1900. Is a prominent member of several fraternal organizations. Is now Assessors' Clerk.

Canavan, C. I.—Born in Niagara Falls, 1850. Entered service of New York Central at age of sixteen, and rose to position of yard master at the Falls. Resigned after twenty years' service and was elected Treasurer of Village of Suspension Bridge, which office he retained until incorporation of Niagara Falls as a city, when he was chosen to fill his present position as City Treasurer. He has served in the same position ever since, in the spring of 1902 being reelected.

Carr, Frank C.—Born in Lockport, 1863. His parents migrated from Germany in 1845, coming to Lockport on a packet via Erie Canal. Attended public and Union School. Has been engaged in the mercantile and hotel business and is now proprietor of the Knickerbocker Cafe on Cottage Street. Has been a member of Republican City Committee, was Alderman from the Fourth Ward in 1891-92 and was elected Supervisor in 1901.

Chapman, Harrison S.—Born in Friendship, Allegany County, New York, 1849. In 1866 entered employ of Erie Railway and continued until 1891. In 1882, however, he became a member of the newly organized Field Force Pump Company and later assumed its business management. In 1891 the business had grown to such proportions as to require his individual time and attention, and he is now the Secretary, Treasurer and Manager. Mr. Chapman is a Democrat and has held the office of Police Commissioner and member of the Board of Health. He has been a member of the Board of Education for fourteen years.

Chormann, Frederick—Born in Niagara Falls, 1872. Graduated from Niagara Falls High School in June, 1890, and studied law with W. Caryl Ely. Admitted to the bar March, 1894. Became Managing Clerk in office of Ely, Dudley & Cohn and upon the dissolution of that firm in 1899 formed a partnership with Mr. Cohn. Is a 32d Degree Mason and a member of all subordinate bodies. Attorney

for the stockholder in some of the largest corporations at the Falls. Vestryman of St. Peter's church.

Coates, Frank S.—Born in Olcott, 1862. Learned telegraphy and at nineteen became operator for New York Central. Afterward Station Agent at Newfane for Rome, Watertown & Ogdensburg Railroad for seven years. Came to Lockport to become Manager of office of Postal Telegraph Company. After four years entered employ of Holly Manufacturing Company as head bookkeeper, which position he retains. Engaged also in bicycle business since 1895. Member of Common Council since 1900. President of Lockport Wheelmen, has been Assistant Foreman and Secretary of Protection Hook and Ladder Company and President of Grant Club.

Crosby, E. Ellis—Born in Town of Cambria, 1857, son of Abiel Crosby and grandson of Colonel Alexander Dickerson, of Dickersonville. Elected Vice President of Niagara County Farmers' Club in 1895, which position he now holds. Specialties, Jersey cattle, butter and cream, white Wyandotte fowls and fruit. In 1880 he married Jennie Richardson, daughter of the late Hiram H. Richardson, who settled in Cambria in 1822.

Crosier, William H.—Born in Town of Cambria, 1837. His father came to Lewiston December 7, 1816. Three years later he moved to the Town of Cambria and purchased the farm where his son, William H. Crosier, resides.

Cunningham, Samuel—Born in Lockport, December 31, 1870. After leaving school followed machinist's trade until 1898, when he purchased the Eagle Hotel, which he has since owned. Volunteer fireman for twelve years. Member of De Witt Clinton Hose Company, having held every office except steward. Now Chief Engineer of the Lockport Fire Department. Member of Foresters, A. O. of H., Red Men, Hay Makers and Exempt Firemen's Association.

Daniels, Willard J.—Born in Vermont, 1813. Moved to Toledo, Ohio, in 1832, and there accumulated a large fortune in early years. It was Mr. Daniels who suggested the name of Toledo for the city. In 1853, after his wife's death, he moved to Lockport. He was one of the founders of the Niagara County Bank and its first President, elected in 1856 and continuing until 1860. Engaged in lumber business as W. P. Daniels & Company, and afterward sold to James Jackson, Jr. Partner in firm of Daniels, Mack & Company, grain dealers, and W. J. & S. R. Daniels, who built the New York Central Elevator. Mr. Daniels lived for many years and died at Wyndham Lawn, which he acquired from Governor Hunt and improved. It is now the beautiful Home for the Friendless. Mr. Daniels died in November, 1877, leaving a wife and a large family.

Day, Charles—Born in Mendon, Monroe County, 1820. Received a High School education. Came to Niagara County about 1854 and settled on a farm in Royalton. Was a successful farmer until 1884, when he removed to Lockport and lived a retired life until his death, which occurred in 1896.

Dempsey, S. Wallace—Born in the town of Hartland and has always resided in the county. Graduated at De Veaux College. Studied law in the office of L. F. & G. W. Bowen and was admitted to the Bar in 1886. Immediately began practicing in Lockport. On January 1, 1900, formed a partnership with Frederick P. James, which still continues. An active Republican and popular platform speaker in political campaigns. Appointed Assistant United States District Attorney in the fall of 1899, which office he still holds.

Dickson, James—Born in Ireland, 1837. Went to Canada in 1843. Came to Lockport, 1867, engaging in grocery business, selling to Whittaker & Webb in 1868. Then started the transfer business which he continues. Superintendent of Streets from 1892 to 1894.

Dickinson, Charles E.—Born in Westminster, Massachusetts, 1862. Was "devil" in a printing office and afterward went on the road as a salesman. Started in the brokerage business after nine years in Rochester, New York. Invested his profits in real estate and later bought a quarter interest in the Franklin Mills of Lockport and became actively identified with the milling trade. Later he increased his interest. He has doubled the capacity of the plant and modernized it throughout. A short time ago the electrical building, on Race Street, was completed by Mr. Dickinson and it is now a center of the dissemination of electrical light and power. Proprietor of Albright Hotel at Olcott. Donated the site for the new Episcopal Church at Olcott. Prominent Democrat and actively interested in social, fraternal and church affairs.

Diemer, George F.—Born in Niagara Falls, 1868. Educated in city schools. Clerk in clothing store of Max Amberg, 1884-94. Teller in First National Bank, 1894-96. Appointed Deputy City Clerk by Mayor Hastings in 1897 and was reappointed by Mayor Butler as Deputy City Clerk and Auditor. Appointed City Clerk by Mayor Hancock. While Deputy City Clerk was Clerk of the Board of Education.

Donnelly, Joseph—Born at Lockport, 1851. Educated in Lockport schools and at Niagara University. Studied law with Ely & Joyce and was admitted to the bar in 1875, since which time he has practiced. In 1882 and 1883 he held a position in the office of the State Engineer and Surveyor at Albany. Democrat.

Douglass, Anthony C.—Commissioner of Public Works of Niagara Falls in 1899-1900. Elected President of the council in 1900. Democratic candidate for Mayor in the spring of 1902. Is a 32d Degree Scottish Rite Mason, Knight Templar, Shriner and member of the Buffalo Club. Extensive contractor. Now building main tunnel for the development of 100,000 horse power for the Canadian Niagara Power Company and sinking wheel pits, the work to occupy three years. Employs 200 to 300 men. Never had a strike. Sank Niagara Falls Power Company's first wheel pit and built the intake canal; built the wheelpit for the Niagara Falls Paper Company, their intake canal and the 700 foot connecting tunnel; also sections three and four of the main tunnel of the Niagara Falls Power Company.

Earl, John R.—Born in Lockport, 1860, and lived there ever since. Engaged in retail grocery and meat business on Erie Street for eighteen years. Secretary of Democratic County Committee four years. Chairman in 1897-98; elected school Trustee, 1898; reelected, 1901. Now Secretary Board of Education, President of the Public Library Board and Trustee Niagara County Agricultural Society. Police Commissioner, 1898-99. Appointed Agent State Department of Agriculture in 1893 by Governor Flower for Ninth District, which position he has held continuously.

Elton, Theron S.—Born in Canandaigua, 1831. Reared on a farm and educated in Yates Academy. Worked on the farm for sixteen years and went on the lakes for eleven years. Afterward learned the ship carpenter's trade, which he followed eight years. Came to Cambria 1860 and followed farming and wagon making. Served as Justice of the Peace twenty-four years. Republican.

Ernest, Chauncey E.—Born March 7, 1850, Town of

Lockport, two miles east of Lockport. Attended town schools and Lockport Union School. Now resides on a farm on the Hinman Road and devotes much attention to fruit growing. Has been Justice of the Peace four years. Vice President of Pioneer Association for the Town of Lockport. Prominent member of Niagara County Farmers' Club. Elder in First Presbyterian Church, Lockport, for three years and at present. Democrat.

Ernest, Roy H.—Born in Town of Lockport, 1875. Graduated from Lockport High School, 1893. Studied law with Hopkins & Brim and Brong & Jeffery. Admitted to the bar in 1897, and began the practice of law which he continues. Elected Justice of the Peace in 1899, which office he now holds. Member of Democratic County Committee, Red Jacket Lodge, F. and A. M.; Ames Chapter, R. A. M.; Constellation Lodge, I. O. O. F., and Elks.

Ferguson, Dr. Andrew R.—Born at Newcastle on Tyne, England, in 1823. Came to America with his parents in 1829. He graduated from Rutgers' College in New Jersey in 1840, and soon thereafter came to Lockport and practiced medicine for a number of years. In 1861 he engaged in the drug trade which he continued until a short time before his death, which occurred on March 14, 1895. At the time of his death he was the oldest member of Grace Episcopal Church, having held connection with that body for more than fifty-four years.

Flagler, Charles W.—Present Supervisor of Town of Lockport. Brother of General Benjamin Flagler and General Daniel W. Flagler. Enlisted in the Civil War in the Second Mounted Rifles. Shot three times. Mustered out as Captain.

Freeman, Benjamin F.—Son of Asher Freeman, who came to Town of Royalton in 1814 and purchased a 640 acre farm from the Holland Land Company at \$2.50 per acre. Born in Royalton, 1822. Moved to Michigan in 1843, remaining four years. In 1847 he returned to the homestead farm, where he resided until 1875, when he retired from active business and moved to Middleport, where he now resides. His father, Asher Freeman had a large family. By his first wife, Basheba Russell, he had five sons, Samuel, Philip, William, Daniel and Isaac, all deceased. By his second wife, Sophia Eddy, he had seven children, Asher, James, Polly, Olive, Sophia (deceased), and John and Benjamin F., both of the latter living at Middleport. Benjamin F. Freeman in 1842 married Harriet Waterman, who died in 1846, leaving one child, Harriet, wife of James H. McNall, of Ithaca, Michigan. In 1848 Freeman married Anne E., adopted daughter of James Freeman. By this marriage he had one son and two daughters: Asher S., who married Kate Kelley; Lydia L., who married W. W. Steele, of Lockport, and Mary A. Mrs. Freeman died in 1859 and in 1860 Mr. Freeman married Laura Lee. He has eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

French, Edgar B.—Born in Orleans County, 1859. Attended grammar school in Medina and Lockport High School. Afterward engaged with hardware merchant in Medina, remaining five years. Then entered employ of Pratt & Company, Buffalo, for three years. Came to Middleport and formed partnership with A. J. Gray. Burned out in 1891, bought Mr. Gray's interest and continued. Also member of firm of French & Rinn, hardware dealers, Gasport. Member of Middleport Lodge I. O. O. F., Cataract Lodge, F. and A. M., Medina Chapter, Lockport Commandery and Ismalia Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.. Trustee and Elder, in Presbyterian Church at Middleport. In 1882

he married Louise C., youngest daughter of Linus Spalding. Mr. French has always been a Republican and although active and influential in the work of the party, has never held office.

Fuchs, Rev. Henry—Born in Baden, Germany, 1871. Came to Lockport, 1901, when he was appointed Rector of St. Mary's Church, which position he still fills.

Gardner, C. M.—His father, Leonard Gardner, was one of the earliest of the prominent business men and manufacturers of Lockport. Started general foundry business and manufacture of agricultural implements about 1840. His son, C. M. Gardner, became associated with him when the style was changed to L. Gardner & Son. Some twelve years after Leonard Gardner died, when the business was reorganized as the Gardner Foundry Company. C. M. Gardner died three years after, since which time D. A. Hixson has acted as Manager of the business.

Gill, John—Born in Devonshire, England, 1822. Came to America 1834, and immediately thereafter to Gasport, Town of Royalton. Came up the Hudson by steamboat and from Albany to Schenectady on strap railroad, thence by canal to Gasport. Hired out to Edward Calvert, on Slayton Settlement Road, for \$22 a year and two months' schooling. Worked at home afterward until 1840 and a portion of the time worked on construction of the locks at Lockport. Married Harriet E. Randall and thereafter pursued farming in the Town of Royalton. Raised a family of three boys and four girls, all of whom are living. He lives now with his wife and daughter, Hattie, at Johnson's Creek.

Gooding family—Four generations now living of this family are represented in a group elsewhere. Stephen F. Gooding was born in Monroe County, 1817. Came to Lockport, 1823. Surveying for railway companies in various parts of the country until 1840. From 1840 to 1862 was engaged in engineering of enlargement of Erie canal in vicinity of Lockport, including construction of combined locks. Village engineer, 1862-67. Practiced his profession on Long Island, 1868-76. Returned to Lockport, 1876, and engaged in surveying and civil engineering ever since. His son, A. Stewart Gooding, was born in 1841, in Lockport, Illinois. Learned the printer's trade in Journal office under Moses Richardson. Foreman job department of that office, 1867-68 and continuously since 1884. Served in Nineteenth New York Battery in Civil War. Adjutant Charles P. Sprout Post, No. 76, G. A. R. George S. Gooding, son of A. Stewart, was born at Reynale's Basin, 1863. Learned his trade in Journal office. In 1891 established Lockport Niagara, a weekly, which he continued for four years. Appointed United States Gauger in 1891 and held office four years. From 1895-98, City Editor on Journal. On staff Union-Sun, 1900-01. Returned to business department of Journal in spring of 1902. In 1895-96, Secretary of Pioneer Association. His son, Sanford Stewart Gooding, born, 1887, student at Lockport High School and carrier for The Journal. Three generations of this family are at present in the employ of that paper.

Gould, Francis A.—Born in Town of Hamburg, Erie County, 1841. Came to Town of Hartland in 1867. Married Ellen Chaplin, of Hartland, daughter of Washington Chaplin, a pioneer, in 1867. One daughter living, Mrs. Clarence Root, of Springfield, Ohio. Lived on the same farm on the Ridge Road for thirty-five years.

Graham, Almon M.—Born in Columbia County, 1842. Came to Lockport 1856, and has since resided there. Many years in lumbering and saw milling business. Now en-

gaged in the retail coal business. Early in life united with First Free Congregational Church of Lockport and is an active member now. Is a Prohibitionist, a teetotaler and actively engaged in temperance work. At first call for volunteers in 1861 enlisted in Twenty-eighth New York and served the full term of the Regiment. Is a prominent member of G. A. R. and veteran Free Mason.

Gray, Alfred W.—Born in St. Lawrence County, 1868. Graduated from Ogdensburg Academy, 1887. Taught school one year. Graduated from Hamilton College in 1892. Studied law, moved to Buffalo, was admitted to the bar in 1896. In June, 1899, went to Niagara Falls and formed a partnership with Hon. Frank A. Dudley and Harry Highlands, under the firm name of Dudley, Gray & Highlands, which is still continued.

Hancock, John M.—Born in Chicago, October 17, 1860. Came to Niagara Falls, 1865. Educated in public schools and De Veaux College. Wholesale coal and coke dealer for twenty-six years. Former member of Board of Education and Civil Service Commissioner. Elected Mayor of Niagara Falls in the spring of 1902.

Harrington, J. Charles—Born in Town of Royalton, 1859. Came with his parents to Lockport and lived there ever since. Educated in ward schools and Union School. In 1890 elected City Treasurer and has since held that office. Republican.

Hastings, Arthur Chapin—Born in Brooklyn, New York, 1860. Secretary of Rochester (New York) Paper Company with which concern he was engaged from 1877 to 1889. Treasurer and Manager of Cliff Paper Company, Niagara Falls, since 1892. In 1896 appointed Police Commissioner of Niagara Falls and electer Chairman of the Board. Elected Mayor in 1897 and 1898. At present Fire Commissioner. Delegate to last Republican National Convention of the American Pulp and Paper Association of the United States. President of Niagara Falls Civic Club and holds other important positions.

Hatch, Charles W.—Born in Orleans County, 1851. Taught district school for three winters. When nineteen he went to Holley to engage in the flour, feed and produce business. Sold out in 1881 and came to Lockport to take charge of business of Niagara County Fruit Company, continuing for sixteen years. In 1897 bought Ferguson fruit house, where he still continues business. Represented old First Ward as Supervisor in 1894 and in 1899 appointed by President McKinley, Postmaster of Lockport, which position he now holds.

Helwig, Dr. J. E.—Born in Erie County, 1892. Graduated from Clarence Academy and taught school for seven terms. Then attended and graduated from University of Buffalo. In 1891 located at Martinsville, where he has since resided. Held office of Coroner eight years, being reelected last year. Health Officer for Towns of Pendleton and Wheatfield. Member of Board of Public Works of North Tonawanda.

Hickey, Charles—Born in Town of Somerset, 1857. Present County Judge and Surrogate. Always resided in County. Educated in district schools and Lockport Union School. Commenced practice of law in Lockport in 1885. Was City Attorney, 1892-96, in which latter year he was elected County Judge and Surrogate. Reelected, 1901. His ability as a jurist is attested by the fact that during the six years upward that he has been on the bench not one of his decisions as County Judge or as Surrogate has been reversed by the higher courts. The Judge has an extended

personal acquaintance and enjoys a high degree of popularity. He is a Republican.

Highlands, Harry—Born in Niagara Falls, 1873. Graduated from Niagara Falls High School, 1891. Studied law at Cornell Law School. Admitted to the bar July, 1895. Became member of the firm of Dudley, Gray & Highlands, 1899.

Hixson, D. A.—Born in Town of Royalton about fifty years ago. His father, John Hixson, was one of the early settlers of the town. Came to Lockport at age of nineteen. Served an apprenticeship of five years to a jeweler and completed study of his art by three years service in a prominent Rochester jewelry house. In 1870 engaged in jewelry business; style, D. A. Hixson; later Hixson & Lyke; Brown, Hixson & Company, and at C. C. Brown's death, D. A. Hixson & Company, which is still continued. At death of C. M. Gardner he assumed management of Gardner Foundry Company, which he still retains. Member of A. O. U. W., Knights of St. John & Malta and Trustee of Baptist Church.

Hoag, Horace C.—Born in Otsego County, 1827. Moved to Niagara County with his parents when seven years old and settled in Hartland. Came to Lockport in 1862 and died April 9, 1897. Mr. Hoag was one of the first men to buy and ship apples out of the county. The first cold storage plant in this county was erected by him and his son, Charles A. Hoag, in Lockport. The latter is now carrying on the business.

Hodge, John—Born in Jefferson County, 1837, and settled in Lockport when it was a village. Became Secretary and sole Manager of Merchant's Gargling Oil Company. Erected Hodge Opera House, which was burned and rebuilt by him. President of Lockport Water Supply Company, Lockport Street Railroad Company and Treasurer of Lockport & Buffalo Railroad Company. Nine years President of Lockport Board of Education. For several years Treasurer of the A. O. U. W. and was Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Masons of New York State during the last year of his life. He died August 7, 1895. Mrs. Hodge is now living, an honored resident of Lockport.

Hooper, William J.—Born in Lockport, 1876, and graduated from Lockport High School in 1895. Took a course at Burns Business College at Buffalo. Studied law in office of Slater & Fennelly, Buffalo. In July, 1898, enlisted with the 202d Regiment, New York State Volunteers, and served with that regiment in Cuba. Returning, he attended University of Buffalo Law School until appointed Surrogate's Clerk in February, 1900, which position he still holds.

Hoover, Matthew Henry—Born in Reading, Pennsylvania, 1865, son of Rev. Francis T. Hoover. Graduated from Williams College, 1888. Represented Williams College in intercollegiate essay contest and won medal offered by American Protective Tariff League. One of the editors of the "Williams Weekly." Reporter on Pittsburg Post, 1889. City Editor of Post in October of same year. In November, 1890, started Niagara Spray, an illustrated weekly, in Lockport and in 1891 was one of the founders of the Lockport Daily Sun, which was later combined with the Union. Became editor of Union-Sun in 1896, holds that position now, in addition to writing for various newspapers and periodicals.

Horne, Hon. Walter P.—Born in Boston, 1849. Came to Suspension Bridge, 1866. Engaged in mercantile business for several years. Proprietor of Western Hotel for over 20 years. Treasurer of Village of Suspension Bridge two years; President of Water Board and of School Board;

member of the Board of Trustees of village at time of consolidation of Niagara Falls and Suspension Bridge; member of Assembly, 1885. Elected Police Justice, 1901.

Hulshoff, Henry C.—Born in New York City, 1856. Came to Lockport, 1881, and has lived here ever since. Is a Shriner and has received the sixteenth degree in Scottish rite. Was cashier at the United States Customs Office at Suspension Bridge under President Cleveland. Has been Alderman, member of Boards of Health and Education. He is an Exempt Fireman, member of Knights of St. John and Malta and President Board of Trustees of St. Peter's German United Evangelical Church.

Humphrey, George—Born in Cambridgeshire, England, 1845. Came to Niagara County with his parents when a small boy. Served from June, 1862, until the close of the war in Nineteenth New York Battery, and participated in all the many battles in which the battery was engaged. Returned to Hartland at close of war, where he is engaged in farming. Has served twice as the President of the Niagara County Veterans' Association.

Huston, Louis E.—Born in Buffalo, 1860. Came to Lockport, 1862. Attended city schools until 1875, when he entered wholesale produce and commission business with his father, Luke Huston, and has been engaged in it ever since. Member of Lockport Wheelmen, City Club and Lockport Club. Elected Mayor, 1900, and at present fills that position.

Huston, William E.—Born in Huston, Province of Ontario, Canada, 1852. Received his early education in schools of Clifton, Ont. Assisted his father on the farm until twenty-two years of age. Learned the trade of carpenter and continued occupied therewith for several years. In 1880 he went into contracting and building, which he has successfully pursued ever since in Lockport.

Jackman, W. J.—Born in Genesee County, 1835. Came to Lockport 1879, when Lockport and Buffalo branch of Erie Railroad was formally opened. He was conductor on first passenger train out of and into Lockport and punched the two tickets No. 1. The first train, unscheduled, ran over the road some time previous and carried Washington Hose Company to Taylor's Park, about twenty miles east of Buffalo. Also conductor on that train. Purchased Niagara Hotel in 1888 and is yet proprietor. Master of Niagara Lodge of Lockport; District Deputy Grand Master Thirty-seventh District, 1900-01; High Priest of Ames Chapter, R. A. M., 1887-88; Master of Bruce Council, Royal and Select Masters, 1892-99-00-01-02; Eminent Commander, Genesee Commandery, K. T., 1894; Master Lock City Lodge of Perfection, 1889-90; is a Thirty-second Degree Scottish Rite Mason and a Shriner, belonging to Ismailia Temple, of Buffalo.

Jackson, James, Jr.—Born in Medina, 1826. Spent boyhood on the farm and went to Tennessee, where he taught school. Came to Lockport in 1855. Engaged in lumber and sawmill business in Lower Town with Willard Daniels. Afterward the partnership was dissolved and his son, J. Carl Jackson, was taken into the firm. In 1884 the Jackson Lumber Company was organized with James Jackson, Jr., President; Augustus H. Ivins, Vice President and J. Carl Jackson, Secretary and Treasurer. Mr. Jackson died on March 6, 1891. He was President of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Savings Bank; Director of the Niagara County National Bank and the Holly Water Company; Trustee of Cold Spring Cemetery Association, Treasurer of Merchant's Gargling Oil Company, Vice President of Lockport Pulp Company, Trustee of Lockport Water Supply Company, Di-

rector of Lockport & Erie Railway Company of this city, President of Bignall Manufacturing Company of Medina, and Elder in First Presbyterian Church. He was member of Assembly in 1864, member of State Board of Canal Commissioners in 1873, Mayor of Lockport 1867, and President of Board of Education for four years in the seventies. He was a Democrat.

Jackson, William—Born at Toronto, 1847. Came to Lockport with his parents in 1849. Lived here ever since. Been one of Lockport's leading tobacconists for over a quarter of a century. His father, William Jackson, was foreman of the workmen who cut the stone for the combined locks.

Jeffery, D. Ellwood—Born near Ransomville, 1855. Educated in district school and Lockport Union School. Entered the law office of Holmes & Fitts in 1881. Was clerk of Surrogate's Court for five years and Assistant District Attorney one term. Admitted to practice, 1885 at Buffalo, Special term. Practiced law since that time with his brother, E. L. Jeffrey, and with D. E. Brong. Elected Alderman of Third Ward in fall of 1901. Member of Niagara Lodge, F. and A. M.; Lock City Lodge of Perfection, A. O. F.; Knights of St. John and Malta and retired member of Protection Hook and Ladder Company No. 1.

Jeffery, John O.—Born in Town of Newfane, 1861. Son of Joseph Allan Jeffery, one of the earlier settlers of the Town of Newfane. Graduate of Lockport Union School. Married Catherine A. Wadhams, daughter of late Perry G. Wadhams, of Lockport. Successfully engaged in real estate business in Tonawandas.

Judge, Martin S.—Born in Ireland, 1857. Came to this country with his parents, 1864, locating at Gasport. Attended St. Joseph's College, Buffalo, Lockport Union School and taught school one term. In 1879 entered the employ of New York Central Railroad as telegraph operator, was appointed Station Ticket Agent at Lockport in 1886 and in January, 1902, was promoted to the office of City Passenger Agent for the New York Central lines, with headquarters at No. 97 Main Street, Lockport.

Knowles, A. I.—Born in Canandaigua, 1848. Came to Lockport, 1861. Enlisted in the Fifteenth New York Cavalry after securing consent of his guardian, Jacob Corson, his parents being dead, and the recruiting officers protesting because of his youth. Served with General Custer's division till close of war. Returning to Lockport clerked in a grocery. In 1876 he started in the peanut business until he commenced the cold storage business, corner Union and Charles Streets, where his sons, under the style of Knowles Brothers, are in the wholesale fruit and produce business.

Kilborne, Horatio—Born in Otsego County, 1821. Moved to Lockport in 1837, where he was variously employed until 1851, when he started the insurance business now operated by H. Kilborne & Son. For five years a member of the Board of Supervisors and one year its Chairman. Member of Board of Education six years. Examiner for State Board of Regents for Lockport for many years and now oldest member of Constellation Lodge, I. O. O. F. and presided on occasion of opening of the lodge's hall in 1902. An active Presbyterian all his life.

Lackor, James R.—Born near Orangeport, Town of Royalton, 1824. His father, **Smith Lackor, with John Maynard**, had a contract to dig one mile of the canal west of Orangeport. Then Smith Lackor bought a farm on Chestnut Ridge, built the original Cottage Hotel, and resided there with his family till his death. Just before his death he sold the farm. Then James R. Lackor came to Lockport and has resided there ever since. Married Harriet A.

Maynard, daughter of the late John Maynard, the contractor above mentioned, in 1849. By this union he had two children, Frank J., born in 1852, and Martha, now Mrs. Rosolve Flinchbaugh, born in 1854.

Lambert, William—Born in England, 1831. Came to Lockport in 1849 and lived here ever since. Worked at the Spalding and Douglass mills for nineteen years in all, when he started in the flour, feed and grain business on Main Street and continued it ever since. Police Commissioner of Lockport six years, served four terms on the Board of Supervisors, is now serving at Alderman from the Fourth Ward. Married to Sarah Boodger, by Rev. William C. Wisner, D. D., in the old brick church on Church Street in 1854.

Lee, Albert H.—Born in Town of Lockport, 1843, on "Old Salt Works Farm." In 1864 moved with his parents, Edmund and Alice Lee, to Wright's Corners, in Town of Newfane, where he resided until elected to office of Superintendent of the Poor. Removed to Almshouse January 1, 1899, to assume duties of the office and was reelected in 1901. Educated at Lockport Union School, afterward a farmer. Spent all his life in Niagara County. Democrat.

Lee, A. Edmund—Born at Wright's Corners, 1873. Graduated from Lockport Union School, 1895. Studied law in office of Hon. John E. Pound, attended Albany Law School, and was admitted to the bar in 1899. In August, 1902, formed a copartnership with William Gold for the practice of law.

Level, J. C.—Born in Kentucky. Moved to Buffalo when a child. Came to Niagara Falls in 1886 and established a carriage service on the New York State Reservation, which he still conducts. Mr. Level some years since began to advocate the compressed air theory as the reason of the recession of the Falls. He says there is an explosion at the base of the Horseshoe Falls every fifteen seconds. He has recently established a life saving station on the river, above the rapids.

Lewis, Eli B.—Born in Connecticut, 1819. Came to Town of Hartland, 1841. Moved to Lockport 1862, where he has since lived. Resides on handsome farm on Locust Street, engaged in raising small fruit, vegetables, plants and flowers. The group picture presented elsewhere was taken on the Golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis. They have five children living, Frank B., Flora, Fred B., Nellie and Nettie.

Lewis, S. Curt—Born in Lockport; resided there ever since. Been in banking business since 1852, beginning in old Canal Bank. Was with the Niagara County Bank, later with the Niagara County National Bank for thirteen years. For four years Secretary and Treasurer of Farmers' and Mechanics' Saving Bank. In 1872 elected County Treasurer, holding the office for nine consecutive years. In 1876 established the banking office of S. Curt Lewis and has conducted it ever since. Has been Alderman; Police Commissioner and President of the Board for over fifteen years; treasurer of Board of Education for over forty years.

Little, Joseph W.—Born in Lockport, 1843. Enlisted in Twenty-eighth Regiment, New York State Volunteer Infantry, Company A, Captain E. W. Cook, in April, 1861. Promoted to Corporal after battle of Antietam. Acting Sergeant when honorably discharged in 1863. In employ of government at Philadelphia in 1865. Served four years as Supervisor, four years on City Council, two years on Board of Health. Member of Niagara Lodge, F. and A. M., Knights of St. John and Malta and Charles P. Sprout Post, G. A. R. He is now President of the Niagara Cooperage Company, Lockport, and has been in the business for thirty-five years.

Lounsbury, Arza—Born in Carmel, Putnam County, in early part of century, of Quaker-Puritan ancestors. For many years in lumber business in New York and Pennsylvania. Came to Lockport in 1834. Interests mostly in landed property. Early retired from active business. Man of intellectual tastes, correct habits and undoubted integrity. He died in 1879.

Low, James—Born in Toronto, Canada, 1836. Educated in public schools of Niagara County and Wilson Collegiate Institute. Commenced life as a farmer and when twenty-five years old entered Custom House at Suspension

McComb, George T.—Born in Lockport, 1856. Served twelve years in National Exchange Bank. Eight years paying and receiving teller of Niagara County National Bank. Made an extended trip round the world. In 1892 engaged in wholesale produce commission business, which he continues. An antiquarian and collector of autographs and relics. Two years Vice President of New York Association of Hay and Grain Dealers. Member of several fraternal societies and an influential business man.

McCoy, F. A.—Born in Shed's P. O., Madison County, 1858. Came to the Tonawandas, 1883. Principal of Tona-



MR. AND MRS. ELI B. LEWIS AND DESCENDANTS.

Bridge as Deputy Collector and Inspector. In 1862 entered the army as a Lieutenant of Company B, 129th New York Volunteers, and served until close of war. Mustered out in 1865 as Major. Wounded at the battle of Cold Harbor. In 1865 appointed Postmaster at Suspension Bridge by President Johnson and reappointed by President Grant. In 1882 appointed Consul at Clifton, Ontario. In 1890 appointed Collector of Customs at Suspension Bridge and was appointed again by President McKinley. He is now filling that office. Also served three terms as Assemblyman.

wanda schools for five years. Engaged in jewelry and music business until 1898. Appointed Postmaster by President McKinley. Now serving second term, having been reappointed by President Roosevelt.

McCoy, Warner H.—Born in Saratoga County, 1831. Attended schools of Rensselaer County and learned bookbinder's trade in Troy. In 1847 came to Lockport and two years later established himself in the business on his own account, first in the Central Block on Main Street and afterward at his present premises, 91 Main Street. Served four years on City Council. Member of Lockport Lodge, F.

and A. M.; Ames Chapter, R. A. M.; Bruce Council; Genesee Commandery, K. T. and Lock City Lodge of Perfection, A. A. S. R.

McGrath, Michael—Born in Ireland about 1810, coming to Utica, New York, in 1826, being employed there as clerk in a grocery store. He came to Lockport in 1841 and immediately opened a wholesale and retail grocery on Buffalo Street. A few years thereafter he purchased the block on the southwest corner of Main and Cottage Streets and continued the grocery business there in the "Checkered block" until his death in 1873. He married Mary Murphy just before coming to America and nine children were born to them, of whom five are living, Sarah McGrath, Michael S., Thomas M., Edward J. and John C., all of Lockport.

McParlin, Peter H.—Born in Lockport, 1858. Learned pressman's trade and was with Lockport Journal for four years. Manager of Lock City Review for two years. Fireman and later engineer on New York Central for ten years. Then opened insurance office in Lockport, which he continues. Member Board of Education two terms. Pioneer in securing free text books in schools. Now serving second term as Supervisor from Second Ward. Member of Royal Arcanum, C. M. B. A., Knights of Columbus, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, Washington Hose Company, Exempt Firemen's Association and Western New York Firemen's Association.

Mahoney, James J.—Born at Niagara Falls, 1863. Educated in public schools. Until twenty-two years of age worked with his father on the farm. For six years from 1885 worked in baggage room of the New York Central. For past five years proprietor of the International Pharmacy. Elected Alderman when Niagara Falls became a city in 1892, and has held the same office ever since. Term expires January 1, 1905, which will make nearly thirteen years' service in Council. Delegate to Democratic National Convention at Kansas City in 1900.

Martin, J. A.—Born in Albion, 1874—Learned telegraphy. Was operator for the Central Railroad for six years. In Commercial telegraph offices at Rochester and Buffalo. Was Manager of Western Union Telegraph Company at Brockport; Assistant Agent of New York Central two years at Niagara Falls. Promoted to Ticket Agent at Lockport, January, 1902.

Maxwell, David—Born in Essex County, New Jersey, 1792. Came to Johnson's Creek in 1820. The portrait published elsewhere is from a miniature taken eighty-four years ago. In 1824 built turnpike connecting Wright's Corners and Warren's Corners and moved to Wright's Corners, where he bought some 42 acres of land, built a house and lived there the remainder of his life. He built the turnpike from Wright's Corners to Warren's Corners and maintained it at his own expense for fifty years. In 1840 he built a hotel at Wright's Corners, rented it for a number of years and eventually sold it. He died in 1878. He was married to Hannah Mosher at Johnson's Creek shortly after he settled at that place and had two children. One died in infancy. The other, Isaac M. Maxwell, still lives on the family homestead at Wright's Corners. For five years in early life David Maxwell held a responsible position under Governor Ogden, of New Jersey. He was also clerk on a steamboat plying between Elizabeth, New Jersey and New York City. For a time he was in close association with Commodore Vanderbilt in his early boating operations, and told many stories of the thrift and energy of the Commodore.

Merritt, John A.—Born in Tecumseh, Michigan, 1851.

Educated in Tecumseh schools and Ann Arbor University. Subsequently he came to Lockport, read law with E. M. Ashley, and was admitted to the bar. Elected County Clerk in 1880 and reelected in 1883. In 1886 chosen member of Board of Education and has served several terms. In 1891 appointed Postmaster of Lockport by President Harrison. Appointed Third Assistant Postmaster-General by President McKinley. Is now Postmaster of the City of Washington, D. C., Treasurer of the Niagara Paper Company and interested in other Lockport industries.

Metcalf, Clarence Edgar—Born in Ontario County, May 18, 1861. Removed to Niagara County, 1864. Collector of the Town in 1894. For two years Representative of his town on the Republican County Committee.

Metcalf, William Coe—Born in Royalton, July 30, 1866. Began teaching in 1888. Moved to Town of Lockport in July, 1900. Enumerator of Census of 1900 for the south half of Town of Royalton.

Molyneux, Charles—Born at Molyneux, Town of Cambria, 1845. Attended district schools, Lockport Union School, Lewiston Academy and Niagara University. Studied law with Murray & Greene and graduated from Albany Law School in 1868. Acted as Surrogate's Clerk and practiced law two or three years. For eight years thereafter he was engaged in the Department of Public Works on the western division of the Erie Canal. Then entered upon construction work of the State Line Railroad, now the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburg Railroad. In December, 1892, appointed Chief of Police, of Lockport, which position he has held ever since.

Mulhair, Samuel—Born in Lockport, 1847. Was proprietor of East Lockport House many years and since his death, on November 11, 1898, has been succeeded by his widow, daughter of Michael Cunningham, who continues to conduct the old and well-known hostelry of which her husband was proprietor for so many years. Samuel Mulhair was a member of the Eighth New York Heavy Artillery in the Civil War.

Nicholls, Charles Luman—Born in Lockport, 1869. Son of Mark A. and Emma J. Marks Nicholls. Studied law with L. F. & G. W. Bowen, admitted to the bar in 1893 and practiced since that time. Exempt member of Protection Hook and Ladder Company No. 1. Been Secretary of Niagara County Agricultural Society since 1900. City Attorney since January 1, 1902. Member of Niagara Lodge, F. and A. M.; Lockport Lodge of Elks; Niagara County Anglers' Club and Lockport Gun Club.

Neilson, Hans—Went to Niagara Falls in 1850, migrating from Denmark, where he was born in 1821. Engaged in tobacco business for two years. Removed to Plattsville, Illinois, and with Frederick Gluck went into brewing and distilling business. Afterward the plant was destroyed by fire. No insurance. Mr. Neilson was obliged to begin life all over again. Started again as a tobacco merchant at Niagara Falls. Shortly afterward went into the grocery and the lumber business. For eleven years he conducted this combined business and then sold out. In 1873 he was made President of Prospect Park. Served until purchase of park by State in July, 1885. Mr. Nielson is a member of Niagara Frontier Lodge, No. 132, F. and A. M. and has been a Knight Templar for over a quarter of a century. He is Trustee of Oakwood Cemetery and Trustee of Niagara County Bank; Vice President of Power City Bank. In 1885 elected a member of Board of Education of Village of Niagara Falls, and continued as such until incorporation of City of Niagara Falls in 1892, when he was appointed a member of the City Board of Education and

remained as such until June 30, 1899, when he offered his resignation. Upon his retirement a resolution of appreciation and regret was unanimously adopted.

Niland, M. S.—Born at Lockport, 1873. Educated in Lockport public schools. Has been with Whitmore & Company since 1889. Now Manager of same company. In 1901 elected Supervisor on the Republican ticket from the Sixth Ward, which is strongly Democratic.

Oliver, Fred R.—Treasurer of the State Council, Jr. O. U. A. M. of Lockport; Treasurer of Niagara Council, No. 8; Recording Secretary of Lockport Council, National Union; Collector of Minnehaha Lodge, Order of the Iroquois; Treasurer of Lockport Council, Royal Arcanum; Secretary of the Grant Club; member of the Exempt Firemen's Association; former Foreman of Protection Hook and Ladder Company, No. 1, and has been a member of the Republican County Committee for three years from the Fifth Ward. Born in Lockport, November 4, 1865.

Oliver, Reuben W.—Born in Orleans County, 1827. Came to Town of Wilson, 1828. Enlisted in Battery M, First New York Light Artillery, October 3, 1861. Appointed Quartermaster Sergeant, November 3, 1861. Now living at Wilson, New York.

Palmer, Charles N., M. D.—Born in Oneida County, 1841. Graduated from Medical Department of University of City of New York, 1864. Served a year during the war as surgeon. Began private practice in Sauquoit, Oneida County. Came to Lockport in 1867, and practiced extensively in medicine and surgery. Has been President of Niagara County Medical Society. Is a Mason of high standing and a Shriner.

Parker, Edward G.—Born in Warsaw, Illinois, 1854. Came to Lockport in 1863. Began to study law with Farnell & Burrell in 1877. Admitted to the bar in 1881. Appointed Deputy County Clerk by Hon. John A. Merritt, which position he held until 1886, when he resigned and went west for a time. Returning, he engaged in the practice of law and continued until January 1, 1893, when he entered the County Clerk's office as Deputy, which position he has held ever since.

Penfold, George P.—Born in Lockport, 1842, and always resided there. Learned printer's trade in office of Lockport Advertiser, beginning in 1856. Became Foreman of job department of Lockport Union and continues to this time. Alderman two terms. In fall of 1901 elected Supervisor of First Ward. Is a Mason and Director of Lockport Savings and Loan Association. Democrat.

Perhamus, John H.—Born in Bristol, New York, 1852. Educated in Canandaigua public schools, became a telegraph operator and secured a position with the New York Central, with which corporation he has since remained, steadily rising in position, until he is now Freight Agent, at Lockport, which important office he has filled since 1892.

Peterson, Gilbert—Born in Owasco, Cayuga County, New York, 1824. Married to Elizabeth Parker in 1847. Moved to Niagara County in 1854, where he had a contract for enlargement of Erie Canal; with Horace Hunt, of Reynale's Basin, where he lived until the work was done. Appointed State Superintendent of Niagara and Orleans section of Canal in 1858 and in October of same year moved to Lockport. In 1859 built the family home on Market Street, which he occupied at his death, November 14, 1890. Well known in New York State, Ohio, Canada, Wisconsin and Washington, D. C., in connection with public works. Survived by his widow, two sons, Charles and Jesse, and a daughter, Miss Elizabeth, all residents of Lockport.

Peterson, Jesse—Born in Allegany County, 1850. Moved to Lockport with his parents at an early age. President of the United Indurated Fibre Company. Member of Sons of the American Revolution, the Ellicott and Buffalo Clubs, of Buffalo and the City Club of Lockport. Devoted considerable time to travel in the United States, Continental Europe and Africa. Married Arabella A. Brown, of Lockport, 1872. Two children, Jesse Dudley and Brown of Lockport, 1872. Two children, Jesse Dudley and Clara B.

Pettit, S. H.—Born in Town of Wilson, 1844. Educated at Wilson Collegiate Institute and graduated from Bryant and Stratton's Business College at Rochester in 1864. Served five terms as Supervisor of his town. Candidate for Assemblyman in Second Assembly District, but was defeated by a small majority. Has served two terms as County Clerk.

Pool, Wilber T.—Born in Dickersonville, 1854. Justice of the Peace twelve years. Served as an appointed official of State Constitutional Convention in 1894. Has served four terms as Supervisor of the Town of Lewiston. Chosen Chairman of the Board in 1897. Served Republican party on Town and County Committees.

Potter, Alvah K.—Born in Concord, New Hampshire, 1840. Graduated from Dartmouth College in 1862. Commissioned First Lieutenant Company H, Seventh New Hampshire Regiment and successfully promoted to Captain, Major and Lieutenant-Colonel. Recommended for brevet rank for "gallant and meritorious conduct" at Petersburg. Admitted to New Hampshire bar in 1866. Practiced in Concord for three years and removed to Niagara Falls, where he was for three years a member of the law firm of Piper & Potter. Came to Lockport in 1872, where he has since resided. City Attorney, 1875-76. Elected Judge of Niagara County in 1883, and served six years. Member of law firm of Ellsworth, Potter & Storrs.

Pound, John E.—Born at Lockport in 1843. Graduated from Lockport Union School and entered Brown University, but did not complete his college course. Served in Quartermaster's Department during the war. Admitted to the bar in 1867 and practiced law ever since. Served one term in Legislature, eight years as Assistant United States Attorney, twice as Mayor of Lockport, Warden of Grace Episcopal Church, President of the Lockport Home for the Friendless, Vice President of the State Bar Association, United States Commissioner, Attorney for Buffalo State Hospital, President of the Lockport Board of Education, delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1880 and was one of the famous "306" who voted for Grant to the last. For two terms he was Exalted Ruler of Lockport Lodge of Elks and was its Representative to the Grand Lodge in Milwaukee in 1901. He was twice President of the Lockport Public Library, for many years has been one of the Directors of the National Exchange Bank, was two terms Supreme Regent of the Royal Arcanum, twice President of the Pioneer Association, and for many years has been Supreme Orator of the Order of the Iroquois. He has often been a delegate to the Diocesan Council of the Diocese of Western New York, many times member of the Standing Committee of the Diocese, since 1901 has been Chancellor of the Diocese and has long been Superintendent of Grace Church Sunday School.

Pound, Gorge W.—Born in Boston, 1865. Read law with John E. Pound, admitted to the bar in 1888. Since practiced in Lockport and now in Buffalo. Delegate to numerous party conventions and public speaker. Is a mem-

ber of various fraternal organizations. Was Captain of Grant Club, of which he was one of the charter members. Also Secretary of Republican County Committee.

Pratt, Lorenzo N.—Born in Town of Wilson, 1831, and always lived there. Enlisted as bugler in Battery M, First New York Light Artillery, and served three years and nine months, being honorably discharged at the close of the war. His father was one of the first settlers of Wilson.

Raymond, Charles T.—Born in Troy, New York, and educated at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in that city. He came to Lockport in 1883 as General Manager of the Saxton & Thompson flour mill. He has since been engaged in numerous other industries and is at present President of the Newfane Electric Company, and of the Lincoln Square Company, and Secretary and Treasurer of the Lockport Felt Company and also of Lockport Hydraulic Company. Mr. Raymond founded the Sidepath League in the fall of 1890 and gave Lockport the distinction of having started this movement. In 1895 he drew up the sidepath law which permitted Niagara County to tax wheels and expend the fund for building sidepaths. He was Chairman of the first State Sidepath Convention in Rochester in 1898, and drew up the State law permitting any county to license wheels and build sidepaths.

Richardson, William G.—Born, May 19, 1826. Town of Royalton. Served as Tax Collector, Road Commissioner, Assessor, Master of Cataract Lodge, F. and A. M. five years. Present Worthy Patron, Gasport Chapter, No. 153, F. and A. M.

Richmond, William—Born in Worcestershire, England, 1847. Came to America in 1863. Came to Lockport in 1868, and entered employ of uncle, James Richmond, manufacturer of milling machinery, who died in 1873, William Richmond succeeding to the business, having since carried it on successfully. Mayor of Lockport, 1883-84, Alderman of First Ward, 1882; Alderman of Third Ward, 1889-90; member of Board of Education, 1889-95; President of Board of Water Works, 1884-87. Served as Collector of Customs at Suspension Bridge during second administration of President Cleveland. Former President of Lockport Business Men's Association. Member of Niagara Lodge, F. and A. M. and Royal Arcanum.

Roberts, R. N.—Born in Brantford, Ontario, 1864. Came to Lockport, 1879. Learned the printer's trade with James P. Murphy. Established a printing office in 1892, which he continues. Elected Supervisor, Third Ward, 1898. Now serving second term. Past Master Niagara Lodge, F. and A. M.; Member Ames Chapter, R. A. M.; Past Grand, Cataract Lodge, I. O. O. F.; member Niagara Union Encampment, I. O. O. F., and Lockport Council, R. A.

Rogers, Rev. L. L.—Methodist preacher. His first charge was at Youngstown, where he remained three years. His next pastorate was for two years at Cambria. While there he was ordained an elder and was promoted to the more important work at Wilson, where he remained three years. While at Youngstown he built the parsonage there at a cost of \$2,000.

Root, Sylvester G.—Born 1822 in Genesee County. Came to Town of Hartland in 1837. One of the most successful farmers on the Ridge Road. Has three children living, Mrs. E. J. Taylor, of Lockport, and George and Clarence, dentists, of Springfield, Ohio.

Rowe, Jay S.—Born in Navarino, Onondaga County, 1847. Came to Town of Hartland with his parents when four years old. Educated at Lockport Union School. Engaged in farming in Town of Somerset for a time. Opened

a general store in Johnson's Creek, which he has since continued. Supervisor of Town of Hartland from 1891 to 1896, Chairman of Board for 1895 and 1896. Elected Assemblyman in 1898 and again in 1899 on the Republican ticket.

Ryan, J. Franklin—Born in Livingston County, 1871. Graduated from Nunda High School, taught country schools and moved to Rochester, 1892. Graduated from Underhill Business School, in which he afterward taught, remaining six years, the last two being partly spent in reading law in offices of Herman W. Morris and Hon. George Raines. Came to Lockport in 1898 and is senior member of Ryan Brothers, who now conduct the Lockport Business Institute.

Ryan, D. Longfellow—Born in Livingston County, 1878. Graduated from Nunda High School and attended Geneseo Normal School in anticipation of making the law his profession. In 1899, after attending the school two years, he came to Lockport to become interested in the firm of Ryan Brothers, of Lockport Business Institute, a business school. He is teaching in the institute and studying law privately.

Sanford, Harvey—Born in Center Brooke, Connecticut, 1838. Came to Wilson, 1866. Engaged in lumber and coal business for five years. Since that time operated local insurance agency for life, fire, accident, indemnity, health and plate glass. Several times President of Village of Wilson. Connected with Management of Union School since it began. Past District Deputy Grand Master of Thirty-seventh Masonic District. Successful dealer in real estate. Republican. Elder in Presbyterian Church, owns and operates several farms. Owns beautiful home in Village of Wilson.

Schad, Charles H.—Born in Town of Royalton, 1845. Left Lockport with Cothran's Battery, October 11, 1861. Was in a number of battles in Virginia and taken prisoner at Winchester. He was liberated in ten days by Fremont's Cavalry. He lost his left leg on May 1, 1863, and has the piece of shell weighing two pounds, ten ounces that struck him. Returned home in 1864 and went into general merchandising at Wolcottsville. Appointed Postmaster there and held the office for twenty-four years. In 1888 moved to Lockport and is engaged in the operation and sale of farm implements.

Seaman, William—Born 1826, on the farm where he now resides. Probably the oldest resident of the Town of Hartland who has always lived on the farm where he was born. Democrat. Never held office. Treasurer of Hartland Central Cemetery Association for a number of years.

Seward, Charles—Born in Town of Hartland, 1855. Operated the farm on which he resides for twenty-nine years. In 1888 was married to Fannie Jesson, of the Somerset family of the same name. Has always taken a citizen's interest in local affairs and has served a term as Collector of his town.

Sheldon, John L.—Born in Town of Royalton, 1846. Lived there all his life. Successfully engaged in farming. A Republican, and has taken an active part in party affairs. Represented his town as Supervisor and held other offices. A pioneer in the good roads movement.

Sheldon, John L., Jr.—Born at the family homestead in Royalton, 1874. Graduated from High School. Came to Lockport in 1891, studied law and was admitted to the bar. Now practicing his profession successfully in Lockport.

Shepard, George G.—Born in Niagara Falls, 1865. Always engaged in banking business. Now Cashier of Electric City Bank. Now serving his second term as President of Board of Education. Captain of the Forty-second Separate

Company, of Niagara Falls. Has served on various city committees and in 1894 was Chairman of Republican City Committee at the Falls.

Sherwood, Arza G.—Born in Hartland, June 25, 1852. Moved to Royalton with his parents, Arza B. and Mary Gumaer Sherwood, when seven years of age. Followed occupation of a farmer until the beginning of 1902, when he bought out hardware business of W. I. Van Brookin, in Middleport, which he now conducts. Mr. Sherwood is one of the very Republicans who have been elected Supervisor from Royalton. Elected in 1897; reelected in 1899 and was Chairman of the board during portion of his latter term.

Slayton, Henry H.—Born in Orangeport, Town of Royalton, 1845. Son of Joseph and Antoinette Harrington Slayton and grandson of Joshua Slayton, one of the founders of Slayton Settlement. (See history of Town of Royal-

port in 1880, where he has since resided. Originator and Secretary and Treasurer, since 1883, of the Niagara White Grape Company. Elder in First Presbyterian Church and Superintendent of its Sabbath School since 1880. Trustee of Farmers' and Merchants' Savings Bank eighteen years. Former large stockholder in Holly Manufacturing Company and closely associated with its officers.

Smith, Lloyd, M. D.—Born in Easton, Washington County, March 23, 1792. Came to Lockport, 1821-22. One of the first physicians to practice there. Partner with Dr. Isaac Southworth. Owned first drug store in Lockport. M. M. Southworth his first clerk. Married Laura Ann Kniffen, 1826. Moved to Williams Stock Farm, Chestnut Ridge, 1832. Kept hostelry known as "Smith's Tavern." Superintendent of Highways and Justice of the Peace. Wife died in 1846. Bought present "Moody Fruit Farm" and died



LYMAN A. SPALDING.



HON. L. AUSTIN SPALDING.



D. GURNEY SPALDING.

ton.) Spent early days on his father's farm, part of original tract taken up by his grandfather. Attended Lockport Union School and Eastman's Business College in Poughkeepsie. Married Emeline A. Newcombe, 1869. Bought a farm at Reynale's Basin, where he engaged in farming and fruit growing all his life. Died March 4, 1901. Widow resides in Lockport. Two children, Esther Loretta, who, in 1897, married Burt A. Smith, an Attorney, of Lockport, and Joseph Albert Slayton, of Lockport.

Slocum, Hart—Born in Cambria, 1848. Worked at cooper's trade until 1871. Moved to Wilson in 1876. Street Superintendent three years. In 1884 Deputy Collector and Inspector of Customs under Collector Flagler. Passenger Agent of West Shore Railroad at Suspension Bridge for two years. Elected Coroner of Niagara County in 1894 and has held the office ever since.

Smith, Calvin U.—Born in Broome County, 1837. Came to Johnson's Creek, 1855. Worked at blacksmithing for forty-five years at that place. Married Mary J. Wood in 1859. Four children, three of whom are living. Mrs. Maggie Martin and George U. Smith, of Johnson's Creek, and Burt Smith, of Hartland. Died July 15, 1900.

Smith, E. Askley—Born in Rochester, 1832. Spent boyhood on a farm in Town of Royalton. In 1856 moved to Rochester, being engaged there for three years in mercantile business. Bought a farm in Royalton and devoted twenty-one years to agriculture and fruit culture. Moved to Lock-

port, 1856. Three children born in Lockport and living: Susan Dennis, born 1828, married Brazilla S. Pease, 1847 (died, 1878), six children, Lloyd B., Alfred L., Laura A., Susie M., Flora E. (married Albert P. Harrington in 1888, three children), and Dorinda D., all living. John Paul Smith born, 1830, one of the old and well known citizens of Lockport and vicinity; and Alfred James Smith, born 1831, married first Esther P. Robinson, 1862, (died, 1870), two children, Emma M. married Fred B. Kayner, 1887 (six children), Burt A. Smith, graduate of Cornell Law School, of the Lockport bar, married Esther L. Slayton, 1897; all living. Married the second time Deborah I. Campbell in 1874; three children, Alice W., Edward C. and Laura A., all living.

Spalding, Lyman A.—Born in Cayuga County, 1800. Came to Lockport, 1822, where he purchased considerable real estate. Spalding Street was named for him. Built the mill on site of Chester mill in 1828. It was burned in 1840 and rebuilt in 1841. In 1834 established iron foundry now occupied by Norman & Evans, Spalding Evans, of the latter firm, being a grandson. Was engaged in several large enterprises, including a line of canal boats running between Lockport and Albany. He was a bank President and Director, Director Branch Bank of the United States, President of Pioneer Association, 1881-82, a strong temperance advocate. Married in 1824 to Amy Pound, daughter of John Pound. Died, January 7, 1885.

Spalding, L. Austin—Born in Lockport, 1834. Early in life entered the office of his father, Lyman A. Spalding. Was Chief of volunteer fire department of the village and officer of the old Lockport Dragoons. During President Lincoln's administration occupied prominent position in Department of the Interior at Washington. President of the Pound Manufacturing Company for a number of years until 1884. In 1886 Democratic candidate for Congress, but was defeated. Appointed by President Cleveland consul to Aix-la-Chapelle in 1887. Afterward transferred to Brunswick, where he remained until 1892. Died January 25, 1902. Survived by three sons, Lyman A., of New York; William G. and D. Gurney Spalding, of Lockport.

Spalding, D. Gurney—Born in Lockport, 1873. Accompanied his father, L. Austin Spalding, from 1887 to 1892 inclusive, when the latter was Consul at Aix-la-Chapelle. Educated at the Brunswick College, Brunswick, Germany. Elected Sheriff, 1899. Chairman Democratic County Committee, 1901-02.

Steele, John Wesley—Born in Town of Royalton, 1821. Came to Lockport when a young man. Married Sophia Houstatter, 1843. Four children, Charles W., George, Wallace W. and Saphrona. Charles W. and George have passed away. Was Trustee of Manufacturers' Building Company in 1858, member of firm of Fletcher, Hoag & Steele in 1864, member Board of Supervisors, 1867-68, member firm of J. W. Steele & Company in 1872, member Steele & Wells Lumber Company, 1877. Died June 8, 1882.

Steele, Benjamin F.—Born in Lockport, 1874. After attending the public schools until 1895 he entered the business house of L. L. Steele and remains there at this time. Member of Protection Hook and Ladder Company and now President. Member of Red Jacket Lodge, F. and A. M.; Ames Chapter, No. 88, R. A. M.; Genesee Commandery, No. 10, K. T.; Ismailia Temple, of Buffalo, and Treasurer of the Lockport Wheelmen.

Stockwell, Ralph—Born in Jefferson County, 1819. Removed with his parents to West Somerset in 1824, coming to Olcott in sailing vessel. Moved to Wilson in 1834, where he has lived ever since—sixty-eight years in one town and seventy-eight years in the county. His means for an education were limited, but he acquired knowledge to such an extent that he successfully taught the Wilson village school for several terms. The Town of Wilson elected him Supervisor in 1859-60-75-76-77. The last two years he was Chairman of the Board. Elected School Commissioner in 1862-63. In 1878 he was appointed United States Customs Inspector for the Port of Wilson. Mr. Stockwell's family consisted of eight children: James K. Stockwell, M. D., of Oswego, N. Y.; Herbert R., of Wilson; Homar S., of Lockport, Superintendent of Glenwood Cemetery; Nellie E. and Walter, both deceased; Carrie B., now Wetmore, of Wilson; Frances E., now Wilson, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Burt G. Stockwell, present District Attorney of Niagara County, of Lockport. Mr. Stockwell is now eighty-three years old, and his present health is excellent. His father, Stephen Stockwell, died in 1890, at the ripe old age of ninety-nine years and four months. Republican.

Stockwell, Burt G.—Born in Town of Wilson, 1868. Moved with father to Wilson village, 1878. Educated at Wilson Union School, graduating in 1885. Worked on farm and taught school winters until 1889, when he commenced the study of law with E. L. & D. E. Jeffery. Admitted to the bar, 1892. On January 9, 1893, appointed Justice of the Peace to fill a vacancy. In the spring of that year he was nominated and elected for a full term. Resigning that

office he was appointed Assistant District Attorney by Abner T. Hopkins January 1, 1896, continuing until January 1, 1902. In the fall of 1901 he was elected District Attorney on the Republican ticket, by a majority of 2,996, said to be the largest majority that was ever given to any candidate in this county.

Stocum, Hector M.—Born in Yates County, 1835. Came to North Tonawanda in 1873 and engaged in the lumber business. He has been Manager of the Tonawanda Gaslight Company, City Treasurer and was elected County Clerk in 1901. He was Captain of Company D, 107th New York Volunteer Rifles, served with the regiment and at the close of the war was transferred to the pay department at Louisville, Kentucky, where he remained a year or two. He is a member of W. B. Scott Post No. 129; was one of the first commercial travelers, starting for a New York house in 1852. Voted for Fremont in 1856 and the Republican ticket ever since.

Sult, Stephen—Born in Pennsylvania, 1812. Came to Niagara Falls in 1836 to act as Foreman of construction of Lockport and Niagara Falls Railroad. After completion became its Road Master and Pay Master. Road absorbed by New York Central in 1856, when he became Road Master under that corporation. He is still living in Lockport at the age of ninety.

Thompson, George B.—Son of Rev. John Thompson, a Congregational Clergyman. Born in Washington County, 1839. Passed early life in New Hampshire and Vermont, going to Troy when thirteen years of age. Came to Niagara County in 1867, remaining until 1869, when he returned to Troy, after which he again came to Niagara County, where he has since resided. In 1890 he organized the Thompson Milling Company, of which he has since been President and Manager. He is an active Sunday School worker and Superintendent of Sunday School of East Avenue Congregational Church.

Thompson, George F.—Born in Saratoga Springs, 1870. Entered law office of George D. Judson as a student in March, 1890, and admitted to the bar in 1893. Formed a partnership with Mr. Judson, which was continued two years, after which continued on his own account until June 1, 1901, when he formed a partnership with George R. Sheldon, as Thompson & Sheldon, which is still in force. For a number of years has been Justice of the Peace and takes an active interest in public affairs. Republican.

Timanus, Henry—Removed to Lockport with his wife from Bethel, Connecticut, in 1876, and engaged in the furnishing goods business, which is continued successfully today by his wife. Mr. Timanus died from a stroke of apoplexy in February, 1898. He was a member of Protection Hook and Ladder Company, Exempt Firemen's Association, Red Jacket Lodge, F. and A. M.; Genesee Commandery, K. T.; Ames Chapter, R. A. M.; Ismailia Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine; Cataract Lodge, I. O. O. F. and Niagara Encampment.

Townsend, James S.—Born in Town of Lewiston, 1859. Son of Samuel Townsend. Lived on family homestead all his life. His grandfather, Sheldon C. Townsend, was a Methodist Clergyman. Mr. Townsend is a Republican, a successful business man and owner of considerable real estate.

Tucker, Carl E.—Born at Buffalo, 1867. Came to Niagara County in 1868 and when nineteen entered Brown University at Providence, Rhode Island. Studied law in Lockport and was admitted to the bar. In 1893 opened a law office at Niagara Falls. At present in partnership with C. H. Piper, as Piper & Tucker.

Turner, Joseph W., Jr.—Born in Lockport, 1862. Attended Lockport Union School. Engaged with the Lockport Lumber Company for several years. Janitor of the Court House for five years. Supervisor of First Ward, 1893-94-95. Member Board of Education, 1890-91-92-93-1900-01. Now proprietor of Lockport Box & Lumber Company. An incorporator of Lockport Park Association.

Walter, Peter D.—Born in Otsego County, 1817. Died in Rochester, 1889. Came to Lockport, 1845. Engaged in jewelry business. Commanded Regiment of State Militia in 1841-42. Trustee of village in 1853; President of Niagara County Agricultural Society, Treasurer of Lockport, Clerk of County, Mayor of Lockport in 1873, thirty-five years vestryman and Warden of Grace Church, Trustee of De Veaux College, Treasurer of Bruce Council of Masons and of Genesee Commandery, K. T.

Ward, Joseph A.—Born in Herkimer County, 1832. Came to Lockport 1864, and entered Exchange Bank as Bookkeeper and Assistant Cashier, which position he held for six years. In 1870 purchased an interest in The Lockport Journal, of which he was Manager until he sold his interest in 1901 to Fletcher & Purdy. Trustee of First Congregational Church, member of Niagara Lodge, F. and A. M.; Ames Chapter, R. A. M., and Genesee Commandery, K. T.

Warren, Charles A.—Born in Town of Newfane, 1857. Moved to Lockport in 1868, resided there ten years and then purchased the Seneca Foote farm on Chestnut Ridge, where he has since resided. Supervisor from Town of Lockport for two years and Collector one year. For three years President of Niagara County Agricultural Society. In 1897 he was appointed Inspector of the State Department of Agriculture, ninth division, and continues to hold that office. Republican.

Watts, J. C.—Born in Royalton, 1856. Came to Town of Hartland in 1860 with his parents, who were engaged in farming. Moved to Lockport and learned the wagon-maker's trade and worked at it for five years at Hartland Corners. Moved to Johnson's Creek, where he kept a general store for fifteen years. Postmaster of Johnson's Creek three terms.

Weaver, Frank Phelps—Born in Cambria, 1845. Succeeded his father, Erastus B. Weaver, in the furniture business in 1887. Educated in Lockport schools. Elected County Treasurer on the Republican ticket and is the present incumbent of that office. Member Board of Education, 1890-99. Member Republican County Committee. Member Red Jacket Lodge, Genesee Commandery, Cataract Lodge, I. O. O. F.; the A. O. U. W., Royal Arcanum, Exempt Firemen's Association, Lockport Wheelmen, City Club, Buffalo City Club and New York and Buffalo Chapters, Sons of the American Revolution. Vestryman of Grace Church. Director of Glenwood Cemetery Association twenty years.

Weaver, George W.—Born in Town of Lockport, 1839. Moved to Royalton four years later and lived on a farm four years. Came to Lockport in 1857, and has lived here ever since, engaging in drug business as clerk for Murray, Green & Company in 1862. In 1871 went into partnership with Dr. A. R. Ferguson. In 1872 dissolved partnership and continued on his own account ever since. A Mason, member of the A. O. U. W. and Royal Arcanum, and Treasurer of the Anglers' Club for fifteen years.

Witbeck, Howard M.—Born in Schenectady, 1864. Commenced business as a clerk for Saxton & Thompson, millers, 1880. After mill was destroyed by fire in 1889, was one of the incorporators of Thompson Milling Company, and now its Treasurer. Member Board of Education. President Business Men's Association in 1899-1900. Member Republican County Committee in 1896.

Young, Charles—Born in Town of Niagara, 1825. His father, Samuel Young, having come to Niagara County in 1810 and taken up 350 acres of land when the country was a wilderness and the haunt of wild beasts. They were driven from their homes three times by the British and Indians, going as far as Genesee until peace was restored. The grandchildren of Samuel Young number thirteen, of whom Charles Young is one. He now operates a farm of 245 acres in the Town of Cambria. Mr. and Mrs. Young have two children, Charles T., living at home, and E. Amanda, wife of S. S. Hopkins, of Lewiston, President of the Niagara County Farmers' Club.

PUBLISHED UNDER AUSPICES
OF THE
PIONEER ASSOCIATION
OF NIAGARA COUNTY.

THE LOCKPORT JOURNAL,
1902.

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